

Today's Take-Aways

Project Horizon

- If you're on Facebook, be sure to join our new Project Horizon group – a closed group for staff and physicians that will be another communication tool as we journey towards Epic implementation!

Trillium Gift of Life Network (TGLN)

- In September, TGLN received nine notifications from our staff. While these notifications were not suitable donors, we know that every notification matters, and we would like to thank the following staff for allowing the opportunity for organ and/or tissue donation to be assessed:

Ria Campbell (ED), Doreen Lewis (Medical), Nadine Demers (Medical), Carissa Sanders (Medical), Andrea Gorman (Medical), Katie Kouri (ICU), Jordon Lee (ICU), Kaylena Richard (ICU) and Brianne Vecchiola (ICU).

PRH Wellness Committee

- Thanks so much to everyone who took part in the Step Challenge!

It was great to see so many of you getting active and having fun.

We're excited to share the winners and their prizes – check out the photos of our awesome steppers with their well-earned rewards!

- The PRH Wellness Committee is also excited to announce the launch of the PRH Pumpkin Patch!

On October 20th, each department will receive a pumpkin to decorate. Your task is to transform it into something that represents your team in a fun and creative way.

All pumpkins will be judged on October 30, based on the following criteria:

- Creativity
- Connection to the Team
- Craftsmanship

We can't wait to see your masterpieces!



Today's Take-Aways Continued

Departmental Updates

Diagnostic Imaging

- At the most recent Management meeting, it was shared that team members currently have four site visits scheduled as part of the purchase process for our hospital's new CT scanner. The team hopes to have a vendor secured by January 2026. It was also noted that during the install of the new machine, we will have a portable CT Scanner set up outside the ED for a period of four to six weeks.

Information Technology

- The Information Technology department would like to invite you to attend its first-ever IT booth at next week's Skills Day taking place on the 2nd floor of Tower A on October 23rd.

In order to help us provide you with the best experience while visiting the booth, we would appreciate if you could take a moment to complete a quick, anonymous survey that we are sending via email to your inbox! The feedback we receive will provide direction on the subjects and information that we should be covering.

Be sure to visit with our team members, play a game and maybe win a prize! We're excited to share with you all the things that are happening behind the scenes!

Materials Management

- Please note that the roof is currently being replaced at the D'Youville warehouse located at 975 Cecelia Street. As part of this work, the contractor has mentioned that some dust and debris could come off the roof and land in the parking lot depending on the direction of the wind.

If you park at the warehouse during this time, please avoid parking in the middle of the lot and instead, park along the edge next to the blue EIP building in order to prevent any damage to your vehicle. We appreciate your understanding and regret any inconvenience.

Medical Affairs

- Please give a warm welcome to the newest members of our professional staff:
 - Dr. Ilay Habaz will be joining the Hospitalist Department on a locum basis starting on October 27th.

Occupational Health and Safety

- The 2025 Fall Vaccine campaign is off to a successful start. Thanks to those who have come out early and received their flu vaccine. So far, we have given 93 shots. We will continue to focus on the flu shots over the next two weeks and then introduce the Covid vaccine. Stay tuned and look for upcoming clinic days – the next being October 23rd as part of the Skills Day event.

If you can't make a clinic date or have concerns or questions about the vaccine, you can book a private appointment or speak to one of our team members by calling extension 7202.

Also, remember to submit proof of any vaccination received elsewhere so that your name can be entered into our draw for one of ten \$50 dollar gift cards!

- Every month we hold a fire drill and/or a Code exercise. This month's Code exercise will be a Code Red. These Code exercises are designed to educate and offer input to make improvements to our internal response. Participation will help ensure that you know what to do should an actual emergency occur while taking part in post-exercise debriefs provide a great opportunity to share feedback.

Pharmacy

- We are pleased to share that the annual Ontario College of Pharmacists (OCP) Hospital Assessment took place on October 7th, and it was a resounding success.

Today's Take-Aways Continued

The accreditation process included a thorough review of our Pharmacy sterile rooms and medication delivery processes, from the point of receiving medication in the Pharmacy to patient administration.

This year's clinical tracer was conducted in the ICU department, where the process of administering a narcotic was followed. We are proud to report that all tracer activities in both the Pharmacy and ICU met the required standards.

The organization and tidiness of the ICU and the collaborative spirit among our clinical managers, directors, and senior leadership team were specifically recognized by the accreditation surveyor. This is a testament to the strong culture and operational excellence we've cultivated over the years.

Additionally, the accreditation surveyor was very pleased with our progress in using Automated Dispensing Units (ADUs) and the CII narcotic safe in Pharmacy. She expressed enthusiasm about our future advancements, especially with the upcoming implementation of Epic.

Congratulations to both the Pharmacy and Clinical teams for your continued commitment to medication safety and for your collaboration throughout this process.



In the picture above, from left to right; Tina Davidson, Chief Pharmacist; Grace Weisenberg, Pharmacy Manager; Amy Warlich, Pharmacy Technician/Temporary Team Leader; Natalie Bougie, Regional Sterile Compounding Lead/Subject Matter Expert; Karen Matthew Tong, Hospital Operations Advisor, OCP; and Brent McIntyre, Vice President, People, Quality and Mental Health Services.

GovDeals
A Liquidity Services Marketplace



**Our hospital sells surplus items on
GovDeals.ca.
Check it out to find great deals.**



PRH Pumpkin Patch

Pumpkin Decorating Contest

Presented by the Wellness Committee

Each department will receive a pumpkin on **October 20** to decorate in a way that best represents your team.

Pumpkin will be judged on
October 30, 2025

Judging Criteria:

Creativity - imaginative, original
Connection - representation of dept.
Craftsmanship - overall visual appeal

*Winning Department will receive a
Halloween Treat*

In Case You Missed It - Highlights From Sabine's Messages

At the September 24th Board meeting, Scott Coombes provided a status update on our implementation journey, highlighting some of the great work that has been done to date by our steering committee, site leads and working groups.

He also shared that we have already achieved multiple milestones along the way in terms of information gathering, and end user device assessments, to name a couple. Each of these steps has taken a great deal of effort and resources and I want to thank all of you who have had a hand in this.



Accreditation 2027

The Board was also briefed on some revisions to the Accreditation process by Beth Brownlee who will have a unique perspective when we hit our four-year assessment period in 2027 as she has recently become a new surveyor with Accreditation Canada.

Unlike our Accreditation surveys in the past, we will not be working towards a specific onsite assessment date, but instead, will anticipate a spring 2027 visit by a survey team with 10 business days' notice who will evaluate nearly 2,000 assessment criteria.

The reasoning behind this change is to ensure that health care facilities continuously operate at peak performance and readiness, and drive continuous improvement as part of their day-to-day rather than preparing for a snapshot in time.

While still two years away, there are some aspects of the process that need to be done in the interim including some surveys, self-assessments, and submission of an attestation in 2026 that our hospital is meeting all of the standards – so more to come!

Mental Health Services Annual Systems Meeting

Speaking of teams, I also wanted to highlight the annual gathering of our Community Mental Health staff at their Systems Meeting held October 3rd at the Shady Nook Recreation Centre.

While they come together as a full team virtually each quarter, this in-person meeting enables all to connect and learn from each other as they shared updates on staff wellness as part of our Staff Engagement Driver, the new Empower Forward program, MESA and the HART Hub.

They also heard from co-worker Devon Recoskie who spoke from the heart as he shared his experience as a mental health worker living with mental illness.

And the day was not without some fun as the team played Community Mental Health Trivia with questions about past and present aspects of our services. How inventive!

With beautiful weather, the gathering opportunity provided a great backdrop for a new team photo – you all looked great!



In Case You Missed It - Highlights From Sabine's Messages

Thankful Tree

As we're in the "giving" season, I'm reminded of how important it is to pause and reflect on the things we are grateful for - big and small.

In line with this, I'm happy to share that our Wellness Committee launched a Thankful Tree, located outside the Lunch Box. Staff are invited to grab a leaf and write down something they're thankful for and add it to our tree.

I encourage everyone to take part. It is a simple way to celebrate the season and recognize the many things that make our hospital community so special.

Ontario Medical Association (OMA) President Visits PRH

On October 9th, we were very pleased to welcome OMA President Dr. Zainab Abdurrahman, a board-certified clinical immunologist and allergist who is serving a one-year term as the association's 144th president.

Dr. Abdurrahman whose father is a retired physician, will spend her year advocating for the more than 43,000 physicians across the province - rural, urban and remote, while visiting communities like ours and hearing first-hand what is happening in their practice and what challenges they are facing.

This was the first visit we've had from a sitting OMA President and it was a great opportunity for Dr. Rowan and I to share with her some of our challenges around the recruitment of ED docs, their payment structure and similar issues that we are having in some of our specialty fields.

In addition to touring her through a number of areas in our hospital including the ED where she was impressed by details of our patient volume, we also stopped in at the Pembroke Family Medicine Teaching Unit where she met with Dr. Richard Johnson and some of his team to hear about the success they have had in retaining graduating Residents.



(Pictured from left, Dr. Richard Johnson, Dr. Abdurrahman, me, Dr. Salwa Alshahabi, Dr. Ali Talehi and Dr. Rowan.)

Regional Cancer Care Representatives Share Their Future Vision Of Care Closer To Home

On October 7th we also welcomed in a delegation of regional cancer care partners who met with a number of our team members around the future of cancer care for our patients.

Our visitors had some great things to say about our organization, our staff and our physicians including a shout out to our Surgical team for being "high performers" and they acknowledged how we consistently do well in a variety of indicators including timing between cancer diagnosis and surgery.

They also shared with us how successful the new CT based lung screening program has been for the province. Currently, we offer 10 CT lung screening appointments per week which are filled through this program by high-risk individuals, specifically current and former smokers aged 55-74 with at least 20 years of daily smoking history.

Their vision continues to align with ours – finding ways to bring more cancer care closer to home and we intend to do all we can within budget to explore new opportunities and ways that we can help to achieve this.

With Respiratory Illness Season Upon Us, Vaccination Remains Important

Last Tuesday marked the conclusion of our COVID-19 outbreak on our Rehab unit. I want to express my gratitude to everyone for their teamwork and collaboration as we navigated this situation.

In Case You Missed It - Highlights From Sabine's Messages

One interesting thing to note is that all six patients who contracted COVID were unvaccinated and, across the unit, only eight patients were immunized. Please speak with your patients about the importance of immunization and their opportunity to receive vaccinations while in hospital.

I got my flu shot on the first day of staff clinics. I was happy to see that many others were lined up as well. You also get to pick a full-size chocolate bar afterwards!



New OR Scrubs Have Arrived!

At the latest Management team meeting we learned that the new OR scrubs, after a long delay, have finally arrived and will be available to staff within two weeks.

Thanks to all who have helped get us to this point and to all those who will use them for your patience.

CONSTRUCTION CORNER

Tower A:

- Cancer Care Project: A new condensate heating line was installed on the roof and the electric heat trace controllers were ordered.
- The floor in the Lower Loading dock entrance was replaced with new concrete.
- The roll off garbage compactor was replaced with a new one.

Tower B:

- Areas painted this month: B389 Office of the Clinical Manager-Medical Program, A238 new storage space for the relocated equipment from the Charlie Room, B044 new PFT area, the epoxy floor in Medical Records hallway, the Ultra Sound hallway and exam rooms, X-ray waiting area.
- A new doorframe and side glass window were installed in the 3rd floor link to convert the former Charlie Room B365.2 into office space.

Tower C:

- Main Entrance Project: Wall framing was completed and work is ongoing with the new main entrance door opening and with plumbing and HVAC upgrades.

Tower D:

- Pembroke Family Medicine Teaching Unit: Framing of the new wall partition and electrical wiring is ongoing.

D'Youville Warehouse:

- Replacement of the roof started. All the redundant exhaust fans were removed from the roof.





PRH STAFF ASSOCIATION CHRISTMAS DINNER AND DANCE GERMANIA HALL

Save The Date - Details Coming Soon

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2025



PRH Gift Shop's FALL HARVEST SALE

October 1 - 31, 2025

20% off all regular priced
merchandise!
+ Staff / volunteer
discount

PRH STAFF ASSOCIATION TREAT DAY!

WICK & WOOD CANDLES

OCTOBER 21, 2025

DISTRIBUTION

When: October 21,
2025 from 11:30am to
1:30pm

Where: The Lunch Box

- PRH Cafeteria

Available Scents:

Pumpkin Caramel or
Apple Crumble



No need to pre-order this month. Staff Association members are welcome to select their choice of candle, as listed above on a first served basis, within the distribution time-frame.

CELEBRATIONS

To include a special message in this section, email celebrationandrecognition@prh.ca.

- Today (October 16th) we recognize and celebrate the feast day of St Marguerite D'Youville who was the foundress of the Sisters of Charity (Grey Nuns) or the Grey Sisters of Canada.

She was born near Montreal in 1701; she had many sufferings in her early life; her father died when she was young, thrusting the family of 6 children into poverty. She married, and was left a widow and penniless after 8 years. Four of her six children died in infancy. She persevered and devoted herself to charitable works.

St Marguerite founded the Grey Sisters in 1737 along with three companions. Their mission was to serve the poor. They established many schools, hospitals, orphanages and homes for the aged. (Locally, the Grey Sisters established the Pembroke General Hospital in 1878, as well as the Marianhill Home for the Aged (Pembroke) in 1954).

St Marguerite D'Youville died in 1771, and was the first candidate for Sainthood in Canada, being canonized in 1990.



- I wanted to take a moment to thank **Julie Pilatzke** for her help with a situation on October 4th. Her expertise and experience were truly remarkable and made a real difference. I deeply appreciate the time and effort you took to support the team. *Amanda*

- Emile Cote celebrated **Jordyn Gould** as she is always willing to help where she can especially with the Medical Quality Improvement Team meetings.

- I'd love to take a moment to celebrate **Rose Bennett** for all her incredible work showcasing employees from different departments. She does a fantastic job capturing their genuine personalities and making each feature feel so authentic and heartfelt. *Paula Adshade*

- Danielle Rae celebrated **Anne (EVS)** for the quick response in cleaning a spill on the fourth floor. Much appreciated!

Celebrations from our Mental Health Services team:

- The Crisis Team would like to celebrate **Cassidy Leach** for being the team's biggest support and entering referrals like the boss she is - never missing a client! She is our rock star. We appreciate you Cass!!!!

- Taylor McMullin received feedback from a doctor at RVH commending **Dalia Naaman** over the weekend for the excellent document she included with a Form 2. He said it was the main factor in his decision. Great work advocating for our client!!

- Devon Recoskie shared: Shout out to **Bekki** for assisting with my client and taking on a referral not appropriate for court support but will need some intensive systems navigation. She also provided some excellent support for a coworker last week that I think was much appreciated! Thanks for being you Bekki!!

- Amanda Curruthers, OPP, shared: "**Taylor McMullin** is amazing and we are so fortunate to have her in the detachment. The program is running just like I hoped and Taylor's work ethic and knowledge is part of that success. She is available to all officers when Jeff and I aren't around which just keeps MCRT flowing. Great job 'coaching' Chris."

- Madison Tomasini celebrated the **Pembroke MCRT team, Cass and Isabelle**, for supporting her client while she was in training and on leave. Your compassion and care does not go unnoticed. Any client you connect with is so lucky to have you! Thank you for all you do! *Maddy*

Upcoming Recognition and Celebration Dates

October

Occupational Therapy Month

Breast Cancer Awareness Month

Sterile Processing (MDR) Week - October 12-18

Workplace Bullying Awareness Week -
October 16-22

International Infection Prevention (IPAC) Week -
October 19-25

Spiritual Care Week - October 19-25

Respiratory Therapy Week - October 19-25

Diwali - October 20

Health Information Professionals' Week -
October 20-24

Canadian Patient Safety Week - October 27-
October 31

Halloween - October 31



TAKE AN ENERGIZING BREAK

Enjoy a moment of relaxation in the **Recharjme** cabin, compliments of **Pembroke Regional Hospital**.

An immersive and revitalizing experience awaits you. Reenergize in a soundproof cabin equipped with a heated, vibrating, zero-gravity chair, light therapy, and relaxation programs designed for ultimate comfort.



Service available
in the corridor
beside the
Foundation office -
1st floor in tower A



Enjoy a break...

Massage Chair

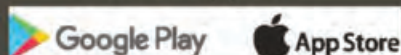
Light Therapy

Nap

Meditation



1. Download the free
mobile app on



2. Scan QR code on outside of
the cabin to start registration.



3. Book a session on the
mobile app





September
10th 2025

**GREAT
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FALL SALE!

**September 29 - December 19
2025**

**Save up to 25%
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**Save up to 30%
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PEMB1G8**

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or call 1.800.605.9653**

- Limited availability, blackout dates apply.
- Company ID must be presented upon check in to receive discounted rate.
- Limit 2 rooms per employee per night.
- Includes 2 days of waterpark play with a 1 night stay and complimentary parking.
- Rates are available for the dates outlined only and are based on availability at time of booking. Blackout dates apply.
- First night's room & tax due upon reservation.



Offer valid only at Niagara Falls, Ontario location for the above dates only. Must be mentioned at time of reservation. Reservations must be made by outlined cut-off dates. Offer is subject to applicable taxes. Limited number of rooms available for each date and blackout dates apply. A minimum 2 night stay may be required for Saturday stays. Cannot be combined with any other discount or promotional offers. Offer based on 4 guests per room and may be terminated at any time without notice. Additional water park passes are \$75.00 per person. Must have one individual years of age or older staying in each room. Offer is not transferable and is not redeemable for cash. Other restrictions may apply. Limited availability, blackout dates may be added at any time. See subject to terms.

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