

WE ARE MAKING A DIFFERENCE

SOC&COM

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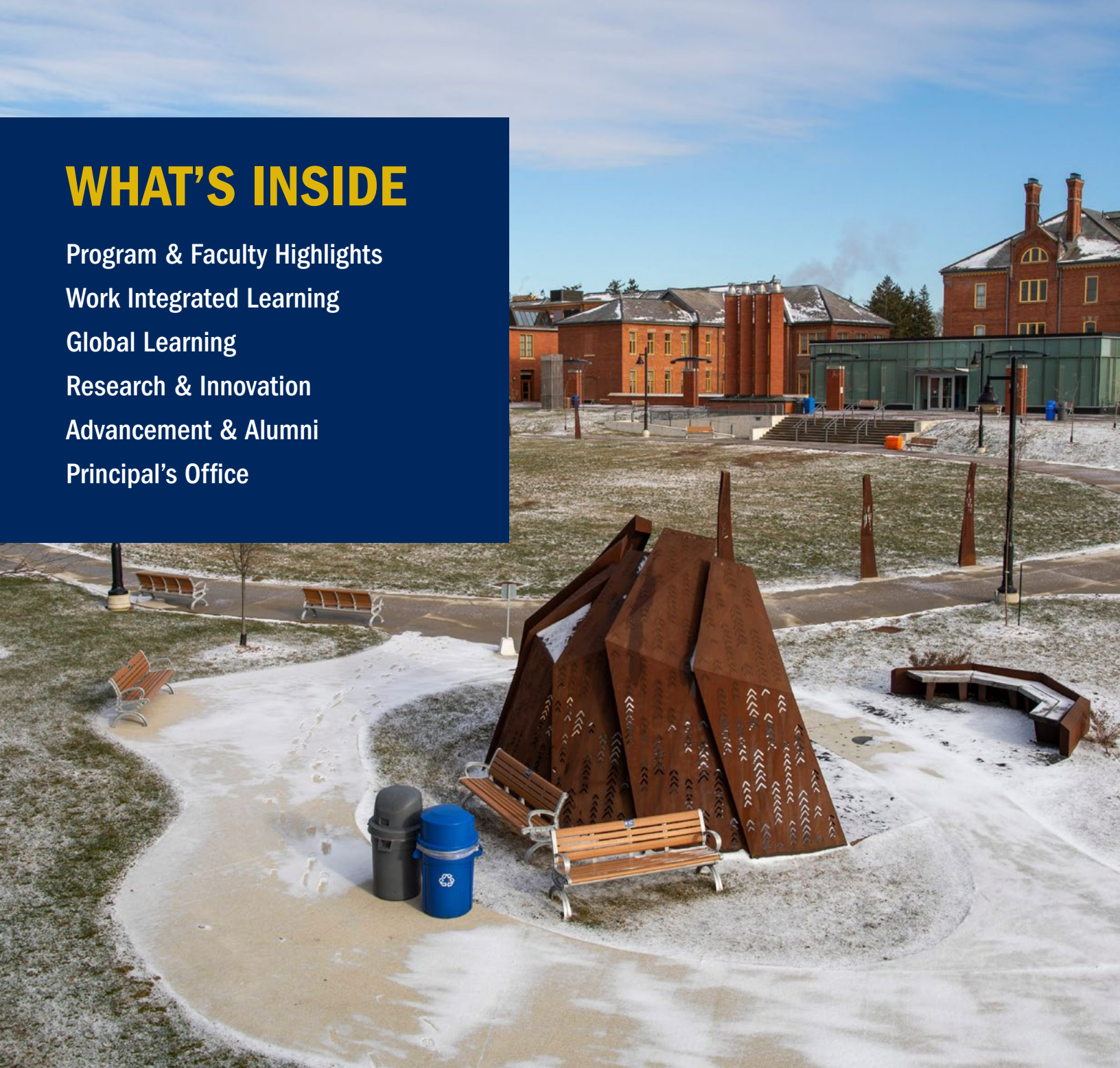
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**A Message from Joanna Amirault,
Senior Dean, FSCS, and
Acting Principal, Lakeshore Campus**

I am pleased to present to you Volume 5, Issue 1 of Soc & Com. I invite you to explore the remarkable achievements and initiatives that took place in the FSCS in the Fall 2024 semester. These stories highlight the diverse projects, and opportunities, that engage our students in meaningful ways.

In this issue you will find several stories which showcase our students' outstanding achievements. Of note, DSW students participated in the WeInspire Advocacy Week; a BBS student was elected to the Board of Directors of the Ontario Association of Behaviour Analysis; 36 PFP students were accepted into the TPS 22 Division Rover Crew Program; and BAMH students showcased their research on contemporary issues in mental health and addictions. These accomplishments are a testament to the support and care each of you extends to our students.

With the Winter 2025 semester now up and running, I would like to thank you all for the incredible work and collaboration that goes into semester start-up. I am looking forward to continuing to share the achievements of FSCS in the coming year.

Joanna Amirault
Senior Dean, FSCS, and
Acting Principal, Lakeshore Campus

Program & Faculty Highlights



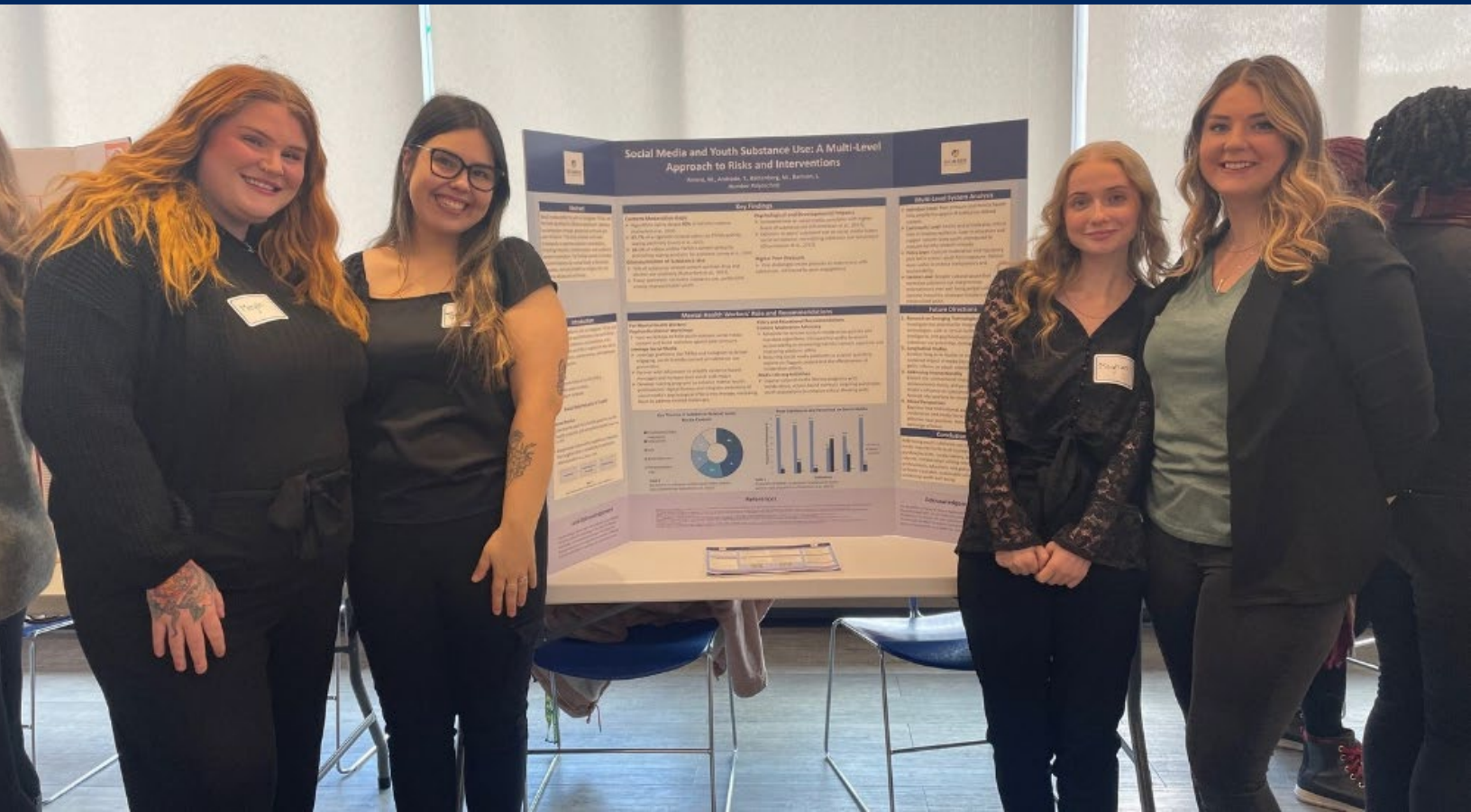
DSW We Inspire Week
BAMH Thesis Showcase
PFP Inter-Collegiate Challenges
FSCS Events & More!

DSW Students Participate in We Inspire Week!

During the week of November 18, 2024, students and faculty in the [Developmental Services Worker \(DSW\)](#) program at Humber Polytechnic, and colleges across the province, celebrated the annual WE Inspire Week – WE Inspire Advocacy!

WE Inspire Week is dedicated to honoring the work of developmental services professionals and DSW students across Ontario. This year's theme was advocacy, and our students and faculty engaged in discussions about advocacy across various courses, exploring how students, as future professionals, can become effective advocates.

On Thursday, November 21, 2024, developmental services professionals and individuals with lived experience joined our second-year students, faculty, and community guests for a panel presentation organized by DSW Program faculty Andrea Rutherford and Mackenzie Ketchell. The panel, titled “Changing the Narrative on Life Trajectories: From Advocacy to Employment,” focused on employment for people with developmental disabilities and their lived experiences. This event provided students with valuable insights into the positive impact employment has on the lives of people with developmental disabilities and highlighted the role they can play in supporting job seekers. [Read the rest of this story online here!](#)



Addictions & Mental Health Thesis Showcase

On Thursday, December 5, 2024, the fourth year [Bachelor of Social Sciences – Addictions and Mental Health \(BAMH\)](#) students showcased their research projects on contemporary, emerging and re-emerging issues in the field of addictions and mental health in the G-Commons. Some topics included: Medical Assistance in Dying (MAiD) for Mental Illness, Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls, 2-Spirit People and Mental Health, Closure of Safe Injection Sites in Toronto, Social Media and Consumerism Addiction, Self-Diagnosis on Social Media, and Psychedelics and the Treatment of Trauma.

Faculty and staff from various departments and services attended the event and took on the role of reviewers. Students and reviewers engaged in critical discussion on their topics including practice application to the field, EDIB considerations, interdisciplinary relevance and application, and contemporary shifts and changes in the field of mental health and addictions.

A huge congratulations to the first (upcoming, June 2025) graduating BAMH cohort!

Bachelor of Behavioural Science Student Elected to Board of Directors of ONTABA (Ontario Association for Behaviour Analysis)

Congratulations to first-year [Bachelor of Behavioural Science \(BBS\)](#) student Stephanie Maiorino who was elected as an undergraduate student representative to the Board of Directors of [Ontario Association of Behaviour Analysis](#) for 2024/2025. In this position, Stephanie will contribute the students' point of view and pose general questions to the Board in her role as a future practitioner in the field of applied behaviour analysis. Stephanie will also prepare brief reports on what ONTABA is working on during her tenure on the Board and these reports will be distributed to all our BBS students.

Stephanie is following in the footsteps of BBS student Solanch Speranza Baro who was an undergraduate student representative in 2022/2023 and now chairs the ONTABA committee on organizational development.

Students in the BBS Program Attend ONTABA Conference

Three students from the [Bachelor of Behavioural Science \(BBS\)](#) program attended the annual conference of the [Ontario Association of Behaviour Analysis](#) on October 7, 2024, in Toronto. This provided the students with the opportunity to hear presentations by various speakers on the cutting edge of Applied Behaviour Analysis and view research poster presentations by master's level students in the field.

One student reported: "From attending ONTABA, I learned that learning is an ongoing process, and that Applied Behaviour Analysis is an evolving field. It has much to offer, and it will continue to grow and gain recognition in our society. Towards the end of the day, we spent time talking with others in the field, which was a great opportunity to build connections and get to know new people."





Police Foundations Program Participates in Multiple Inter-collegiate Challenges & Events

PFP had a busy Fall 2024 semester! On September 28, Semester 3 [Police Foundations \(PFP\)](#) students took part in the [Rescue Weekend Mass Casualty Inter-professional Education \(IPE\)](#) event at the North campus. In collaboration with the Faculty of Health Sciences and Wellness, students engaged in a mass crisis simulation with multiple programs, including [Paramedic](#), [Emergency Telecommunications](#), [Nursing](#), [Pre- Service Firefighter Education and Training](#), and [Exercise Science and Lifestyle Management](#). As a part of the simulation, PFP faculty Frank Doto and Peter Iskander taught students how to direct traffic, manage witnesses and bystanders, and support the victims of the mass vehicle collision and service providers in responding to the scene.

For the first time ever, 10 of our Semester 3 PFP students engaged in the Before the Badge Program with Peel Regional Police Services. The six-week internship program was held at Peel Regional Police headquarters and participants from Humber and Sheridan Police Foundations programs learned practical skills in policing. [Read the rest of this story online here!](#)

PFP Students Accepted into the TPS 22 Division Rover Crew Program

Congratulations to [Police Foundations \(PFP\)](#) students Violet Ho and Jennifer Nguyen, who were two of 36 PFP students accepted to be a part of the [22 Division TPS Rover Crew program](#) this year! “Joining the Rover Crew was our goal when we applied for the Police Foundation Program of Humber,” says Ho. “We are eager to learn and sharpen our experience through volunteer work.”

The 22 Division Toronto Police Service Rover Crew is a joint program between the Toronto Police Service, Humber Polytechnic, and Scouts Canada. Founded by Humber Police Foundations students in 2003, the Rovers are a Scouting designation for young people to prepare for their future. “The acceptance to the Rover Crew is like an opportunity door that opens to us to develop ourselves to be a better version. We appreciate it and are excited to give back to the community that we are living in. We are proud to be a part of the Rover team, put on the Rover Crew uniform, and perform on duty with the crew,” says Ho.

Most recently, Ho and Nguyen attended the Santa Claus Parade (Downtown and Etobicoke).



“We worked with other volunteers and event staff to set up, organize and maintain safety during the parade. Looking at the happiness and smiles of volunteers, kids, and everyone who attended the parade brought us a lot of emotions.” The two students noted special thanks to PFP Professor Carmine Spadafora, who supported and encouraged them through the application process.

Congratulations Jennifer and Violet!

FSCS Events

Alexandre Boucher Memorial Lecture October 16, 2024

FSCS held the 8th annual Alexandre Boucher memorial lecture on October 16, 2024. This year the Faculty of Social and Community Services welcomed back Jhanelle Peters, Registered Psychotherapist with the College of Registered Psychotherapists of Ontario (CRPO), to speak with students, staff and faculty about managing stress and anxiety. Having worked in Canada and the United States, Jhanelle has connected with individuals from diverse populations helping them uncover negative patterns and behaviours that make life challenging. Through her diverse experience as a Sports Psychology Coordinator for the Athletics Department of Pepperdine University, and as the former Mental Health Clinician for the Toronto Raptors, Jhanelle's lecture provided insight on identifying and developing self-care strategies to reduce anxiety and promote positive self-talk.

The Annual Alexandre Boucher Memorial Lecture takes place during Mental Health Awareness month. It is an event held in memory of Criminal Justice Degree student Alexandre Boucher, to raise awareness and provide support to the Humber community.



Ontario College Fair October 16 & 17, 2024

Humber Polytechnic participated in the Ontario College Fair on October 16 and 17, 2024. This year's fair was a fantastic opportunity for prospective students to learn about campus life, housing, and student services. Visitors had the chance to ask questions and gain insights from current FSCS students, alumni, and recruitment advisors. Program representatives were available to provide detailed information and answer questions. We enjoyed meeting everyone who visited us at the Humber FSCS booth!

FSCS at the High School Post-Secondary Fairs

FSCS attended 14 High School Post-Secondary Education Fairs throughout the Fall semester. The post-secondary fairs attract students and guests eager to explore their educational options. Representatives from universities, colleges, private schools, trades, and public services were all in attendance to provide valuable information and answered questions. Humber FSCS had a great time connecting with students across various institutions who were navigating their career paths.

Work Integrated Learning



Career Mentorship Program

The Career Mentorship Program (CMP) is a WIL program uniquely offered to Faculty of Social and Community Services (FSCS) students in the Police Foundations (PFP) and Protection, Security, and Investigation (PSI) programs. The CMP connects soon-to-graduate students with an industry-based mentor currently employed in the mentee's desired future career.

Occurring over 3, 1-hour sessions, students and mentors build a professional relationship while discussing relevant and emerging industry topics and trends, the steps that students need to take to embark on their desired future career, and hand-tailored advice that can provide students with an inside perspective to their mentor's industry. The CMP offers PFP and PSI students with tangible industry experience prior to their graduation and entry into the field. Over the last academic year, the CMP has over doubled in participation and continues to expand!

Global Learning

**Humber Students Study Abroad
This Summer**
Global Summer School
Welcome Exchange Students
Humber & UCL Run 2nd Hybrid Coil



Humber Students Study Abroad This Summer

Summer offers Humber students a unique opportunity to gain one elective credit abroad, through one of Humber's international academic partners. This summer 80 students from across Humber participated in programs across the world, such as Digital Business Innovation, UN Sustainable Development Goals and Co-Creation, Learning Osaka, Sustainable Marketing, "Our Canoe is Our Island, Our Island is Our Canoe", and more.

Students from the Faculty of Social and Community Services went to Germany, England, Hawai'i, Denmark and Japan. This incredible experience changes year to year, with programs and countries available expanding every summer. It offers students who may not be able to go on a semester exchange a chance to travel for academic credit during a shorter period of time – from 2 to 4 weeks - during the summer, making it more accessible to many of our students. A travel bursary offered through Humber Global also supported students to be able to attend.

[Read online at communityservices.humber.ca/news](https://communityservices.humber.ca/news)



Global Summer School

This summer, [Global Summer School \(GSS\)](#) returned again! Each Faculty at Humber offered one course for elective credit. This year the Faculty of Social and Community Services ran the course Human Rights, Diversity and Social Inclusion for the first time.

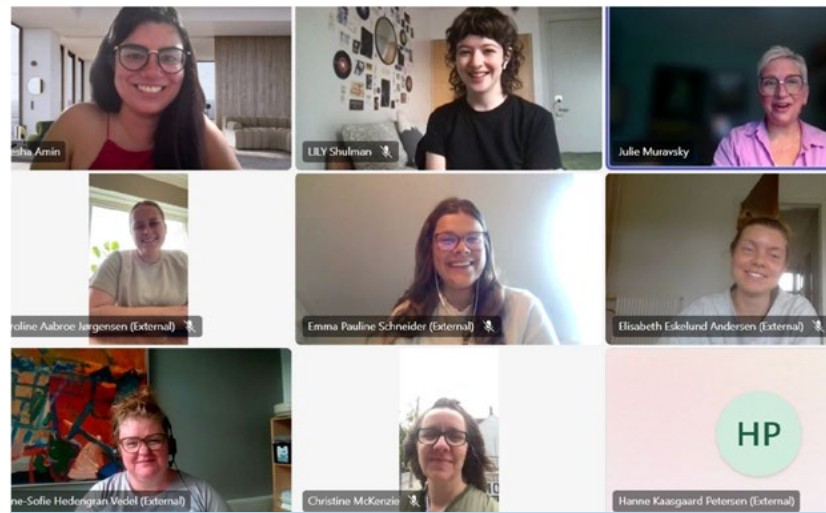
Along with taking a Humber class, and fulfilling an elective credit in just three weeks, students also had the option to participate in a range of fun social activities, including tree-top trekking, a Blue Jay's game, a boat party on Lake Ontario, river rafting, Canada's Wonderland, and a trip to Niagara Falls.



Over 220 students attended GSS 2024, 175 of which came for this opportunity from abroad! Students joined from Argentina, Barbados, Brazil, Brunei, Bhutan, Costa Rica, Denmark, Fiji, Germany, Japan, Kenya, Indonesia, Mexico, the Netherlands, Nigeria, the Philippines, Republic of Ireland, Taiwan, Thailand, the U.S.A, and the U.K. (England, Scotland, Northern Ireland and Wales)! [Read more online here!](#)

Featured in Humber Today: Bringing a Global Experience to Campus

Humber students in the [Bachelor of Social Science – Addictions and Mental Health](#) and the [Bachelor of Community Development](#) programs and UCL University College in Denmark took their online global learning collaboration into the real world when the Danish students came to Canada for a week as part of a three-week hybrid project. Read the full story on [Humber Today!](#)



Any full-time faculty or staff in FSCS that is interested in submitting a COIL proposal can do so by contacting the Global Learning Coordinator at FSCSglobal@humber.ca



Research & Innovation



Faculty Research & Publications

What's New at the Centre for Social Innovation

Congratulations to Addictions and Mental Health faculty member, Shivon Raghunandan, on her recent publication!

In 2024 [Bachelor of Social Science – Addictions and Mental Health](#) faculty Shivon Raghunandan published an article with co-author Roy Moodley in the Journal of Couple and Relationship Therapy. Their study “The Lived Experiences of Interracial Couples: Racialized Experiences, Reconciling Differences, and Engendered Strengths,” explored the lived experiences of heterosexual, Racialized-White couples with regards to issues of race and culture as couples crossed socially constructed racial and cultural boundaries.

Congratulations to Bachelor of Child and Youth Care faculty member Janet Seow on her recent publications!

BCYC faculty member Janet Rosemary Seow published the chapter “Black Canadian Children’s Literature: Evolution, Writers, and Impact,” in The Routledge Handbook of Black Canadian Literature (2024). Seow’s chapter delves into Black Canadian children’s literature, its development over more than 60 years, and the influential writers who have defined the genre. It examines stories that reflect the diverse experiences of Black childhood, as narrated by both Black Canadians and African immigrants who have made Canada their home. The Routledge Handbook of Black Canadian Literature was edited by Leslie Sanders and Andrea A. Davis.

In 2025 Seow will be publishing an article in the inter-disciplinary academic journal *Jeunesse: Young People, Texts, and Cultures*. “Black Youth Reading for Pleasure in Alternative Spaces” addresses the notable gap in understanding the pleasure reading interests of Black youth in Toronto, with even less known about the preferences of Black nerds. Research on the reading interests of Black youth and the impact



of intersectionality on their lives and choices is limited. Studies focusing on Black literature often emphasize trend analysis and the scarcity of books promoting diversity.

This article provides a unique perspective on an important subcultural group and their engagement with pleasure reading. It is based on qualitative participatory research conducted with Black youth aged 16-25 in Toronto, Canada.

What's Happening at Humber's Centre for Social Innovation

At Humber's Centre for Social Innovation (CSI), we're bringing together students, faculty, and community partners to address systemic challenges and foster positive outcomes across a wide variety of issue areas. We continue to take on many new and diverse projects, helping community groups and organizations grow towards their impact goals! Check out some of the many issue areas we've been working on below with the invaluable support of 15 Humber students.



HOUSING DISPLACEMENT

CommuniACTION Social Hack-a-thon: The Centre for Social Innovation and Longo's Centre for Entrepreneurship at Humber Polytechnic are co-hosting their second annual social hack-a-thon. Last year's theme focused on food security (the InnovEAT Challenge) in partnership with Daily Bread. This year, student teams will be asked to come up with creative solutions to community displacement due to development.

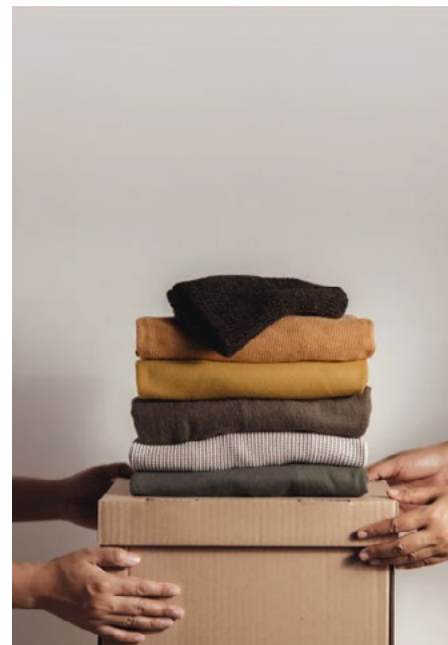
Applications for Humber students to join the challenge closed in January. Accepted students were invited to join us at the kick-off event on Saturday, January 25, 2025 to learn more about the issue with our community partner, CP Planning, and work on case and pitch skills with Longo's Centre for Entrepreneurship. The challenge is a great chance for students to hone their problem-solving skills, work with peers, and compete for monetary prizes (\$325 honorarium per student). CSI cont'd next page...

IMPACT EVALUATION & SYSTEMS CHANGE

Map the System at Humber: Map the System (MTS) at Humber is now part of the CSI family of projects. The team of faculty from FLAS are looking to grow with more student and faculty participants, and we're leading that charge with them! MTS is a global competition led by the Skoll Centre for Social Entrepreneurship at Oxford University and Humber has been participating for over five years. Last year, the first-place prize in the Canadian national-level competition was captured by Chandra (Nat) Limiarja, a Humber student in the Research Analyst Program, in the Faculty of Liberal Arts & Sciences (FLAS). We continue to encourage faculty and students to get involved by integrating it into the classroom, being mentors, or participating in Humber's local Map the System competition for 2025 or in the future. Learn more about how to get involved by emailing daniel.bear@humber.ca.

SUSTAINABLE FASHION & STUDENT SUPPORT

Threads of Care at Humber Polytechnic: In collaboration with the Office of Equity, Diversity, Inclusion and Belonging, Student Success and Engagement, IGNITE, and the Fashion Arts and Business program in the Longo Faculty of Business, the first Humber Helps: Threads of Care event was held at North campus on December 12, 2024. As many students face financial challenges this free clothing and shoe giveaway, sponsored by Brands for Canada, was meant to help students ease the cost of student life. Over 90 students were able to collect brand new clothing items. Keep an eye out for future events taking place throughout 2025! [Read the rest of the CSI story online here!](#)



For more information about Humber's Centre for Social Innovation, please visit humber.ca/csi or email Daniel.Bear@humber.ca. If you have a project or research idea about social innovation, we would be happy to connect!

Advancement & Alumni

ALUMNI STORIES



Aaron Ramhit

Program: [Protection, Security and Investigation \(PSI\)](#)

Grad Year: 2017

During my time at Humber, I was immersed in a dynamic and engaging learning environment that not only provided relevant industry and technical knowledge but fostered invaluable networking opportunities. The PSI Faculty all displayed immense dedication and time into sharing their knowledge. From helping students with resume and interview prep, helping guide students on potential career paths, to being a mentor, the faculty created a comfortable atmosphere where everyone can strive.

The facilities both have a great atmosphere for students for individualized or collaborative work. The campus gyms provided an excellent outlet for physical activity, allowing for a healthy balance between academic pursuits and personal well-being. Personally, the faculty was the best part of Humber and a huge reason for my success in the field. The industry events we were encouraged to attend is where I met my first and second employers. The constant encouragement and support from the faculty created a sense of empowerment and motivated students to strive for excellence.

My experience since graduating has been nothing short of exciting. Since meeting my employer at the time through an event arranged through Humber, I worked throughout the physical security and emergency management field and learned of the various facets involved. In my current role, I am responsible for the overall asset protection of bank assets, employee preparedness, and travel and event risk management globally. This experience has broadened my understanding of the global application of physical security measures and provided me with a unique opportunity to learn about different areas under the physical security umbrella. Read the rest of this story and more stories from our alumni online [HERE!](#)

ALUMNI STORIES



Avion Campbell

Program: [Social Services Worker \(SSW\) and Bachelor of Community Development \(CDEV\)](#)

Grad Year: 2021 to 2023

I knew Humber was the place for me even before I got an offer to the [Social Service Worker \(SSW\)](#) Program. The best parts of my Humber journey were the one-on-one sessions professors dedicated to us students to ensure our academic success, the opportunity to connect with students from numerous social locations, and the professional connections Humber classes provide through guest speakers and presenters in classes.

The fierce competitiveness of my peers and how hard our faculty worked to make sure we gained practical experience to face the professional world were two factors that greatly motivated me. When I completed my work placement at Traverse Independence, I was hired full-time as an Acquired Brain Injury Community Facilitator. I graduated from the SSW program with the Academic Excellence and Commitment Awards. Completing the SSW program grew my passion for providing services to my community.

I quickly understood the role education played in making equitable changes, so I furthered my education at Humber by applying for advanced standing in the [Honours Bachelor of Community Development](#) program. The best parts of the Community Development program are how interactive the courses are and the preparation they provide for life-changing work as a human service professional. The SSW and Community Development program made me a versatile and in-demand professional because I possessed academic course experience in Counselling, Organizational Writing, Qualitative and Quantitative Research Methods, Transformation Leadership, Program Evaluation, and Participatory Action Research. A fun fact is that the SSW and Community Development Program qualified me to apply to Masters Programs in Social Work and Education. I now possess a Master's in Education with a concentration in teaching and learning. Read the rest of this story and more stories from our alumni online [HERE!](#)

Principal's Office



**Humber's Annual Employee
Holiday Party!**
New Toronto Holiday Market
Updates from Lakeshore
Grounds Interpretive Centre

Humber Polytechnic's Annual Employee Holiday Party

On November 30th, Humber Polytechnic embarked on an Adventure Under the Northern Lights for this year's annual holiday party! Hosted by the Lakeshore Principal's Office and the Department of People(s) & Culture, the organizing team collaborated with departments across Humber to offer a variety of workshops and activities. Humber employees and their families were invited to participate in circuit crafts with the Idea Lab, yoga sessions, cookie decorating, planting workshops, and interactive story telling. Special thanks to [Humber Libraries](#), [Humber Athletics](#), Lynn Short from [IE&E](#), the jazz students from [Humber Music](#), the student photographers from the [Humber Photography](#) program, as well as the students and faculty from the [Child & Youth Care](#) and [Early Childhood Education](#) programs for volunteering their time and talents towards this event. The event also saw an outpouring of donations towards the [Department of Public Safety Teen Gift Drive](#) and the [Humber Grab N' Go Food Bank](#).

We thank all those who donated food and gift items to our local communities, as well as the departments and faculties who contributed prizes for our donation raffle draw.

What's Happening at the Lakeshore Grounds Interpretive Centre

Grace: One Story of Thousands

In response to unprecedented demand, the Lakeshore Grounds Interpretive Centre has renewed Grace: One Story of Thousands for the 2024-2025 academic year. Launched in 2023, the exhibition chronicles the life of a woman named Grace, one of the 1511 people buried in the Lakeshore Psychiatric Hospital cemetery at the corner of Horner and Evans Avenues. The exhibition shares personal letters and hospital records from Grace's incarceration in the Hamilton Asylum, and were gathered and shared for this display by Grace's great-niece, Marg Tumilty. In response to a heavy demand for tours and in-class activities, Grace: One Story of Thousands will be open by appointment only for the winter 2025 semester, with appointments available from Monday to Friday, 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. in the Lakeshore Grounds Interpretive Centre (WEL-104). Contact: Info@LakeshoreGrounds.ca



NEW TORONTO HOLIDAY MARKET

The Lakeshore Grounds Interpretive Centre, in partnership with Maureen Luke, hosted the fifth annual New Toronto Holiday Market on Saturday, November 30. The event, held in support of Haven on the Queensway, featured over 30 local vendors offering unique, handcrafted, and locally produced goods. [Read the rest of this story online here!](#)