#### WE ARE MAKING A DIFFERENCE

# 

## Advancement and Alumni

## **YEAR IN REVIEW** 2020-2021



Read online at communityservices.humber.ca/news

Faculty of Social & Community Services

#### New Scholarship for Black/African Students

Humber's Faculty of Social and Community Services is grateful for the support of **Punjabi Community Health Services**. The organization, helmed by Humber alumnus Baldev Mutta, recently established the Punjabi Community Health Services Scholarship of Excellence, in support of students in either the Bachelor of Behaviour Science or Addictions and Mental Health programs of study. The scholarship will provide financial assistance to a student who self-identifies as Black/African and has demonstrated how they worked on issues related to anti-racism or anti-oppression.

Punjabi Community Health Services is committed to supporting equity seeking groups and specifically students who identify as Black/African. We are grateful to Baldev Mutta and the Board of Directors of Punjabi Community Health Services for their leadership and generosity.

To learn more about this scholarship, and other newly launched scholarships for BIPOC students, please visit Humber's Advancement and Alumni website **here**.

"Committed to supporting equity-seeking groups and specifically students who identify as Black/African."

Read online at communityservices.humber.ca/news

#### Police Foundations Program Graduate named new School, Community Engagement and Safety Police Officer in Municipality of Grey Highlands, Grey County

Police Foundations Graduate, Nicholas Wilson was recently welcomed to the Grey Bruce Detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police as the new School, Community Engagement and Safety Police Officer in the Municipality of Grey Highlands, Grey County.

The announcement was recently featured in Collingwood Today. Click **here** to read to full article.





#### Developmental Services Worker, Mitchell Gosse, Profiled in Humber Unlimited E-News

A recent graduate (DSW '20) of the Developmental Services Program, Mitchell Gosse, shares his experience as a DSW student at Humber College. In the article, published in Humber's Unlimited E-News, Mitchell discusses the impact of receiving a Humber scholarship, family, future aspirations and the ability to uplift others through his work.

Click here to read the full article.





#### Humber College and the FSCS Receive Funding in Support of Students

Dr. Dan Andreae, has been involved in Humber in one way or another for more than 20 years. During his time as a professor, he taught over 45 subjects. He has also received the Professor of the Year award at the University of Guelph-Humber twice.

Dr. Dan Andreae is hugely supportive of students and is motivated to support them in cultivating their curiosity and learning. To support that, he has generously donated \$350,000 to the Unlimited Campaign, which aims to raise \$50 million to enhance the Humber student experience, through transformative, innovative, collaborative and impactful learning opportunities and spaces. With increasing numbers of people experiencing distress including financial crises during these times, this generous gift will provide emergency bursaries and scholarships for students across three faculties including the FSCS, removing financial barriers to academic success, and recognizing student merit and accomplishments.

Read more about Dr. Dan Andreae's relationship with Humber including his most recent gift **here**.

Read about the Unlimited Campaign here.

#### **Set up for Success:** My experience in the DSW program

Vriti Bajaj

"

"Life always begins with one step outside of your comfort zone." (Shannon L. Alder) These words have always resonated with me.

As a proud graduate of the Developmental Services Worker (DSW) program in 2019, I have had many opportunities knocking at my door.

Prior to coming to Humber as an International student, I had completed an undergraduate degree in Psychology from the University of Madras, in India, and had a plethora of work experience including supporting children with learning disabilities and working on a meta-analysis study in a mental health hospital and research centre. I also did a study abroad exchange in Germany, which enabled me to acquire cultural knowledge.

I moved to Canada to broaden my horizons in education, knowledge-acquisition and to gain the global experience in living in one of the world's most diverse countries. I had completed a course in Autism and Behavioural Sciences from Fanshawe College in London, Ontario, gaining hands-on experiences by having placements in schools and community agencies for individuals with developmental disabilities.

I then started at Humber to complete a DSW diploma which gave me insight to advocate for individuals with disabilities within our community. The DSW program ensures students receive the best possible experience in the field, helping to make them job ready. I had the opportunity to intern at the Toronto District School Board (TDSB) and the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health (CAMH). I have also worked with the Global Autism Project since 2018, in countries like China and the Czech Republic, advocating for the use of sustainable and evidence-based practices for autism services. In 2019, I also had the opportunity to attend World Autism Day hosted by the United Nations. I am



currently employed as a DSW at Community Living North Halton in a specialized treatment home for adult males with autism, aiding them in maximizing their quality of life.

The best way to present yourself to prospective employers is by having a well-structured resume, highlighting all of your accomplishments, and remembering the necessary core competencies of our field. Humber's Student Centre for Success has a plethora of information and helped me to become job-ready and confident through workshops, formatting of documents, and mock interviews. The support I received from the department while travelling abroad to do advocacy work in China, was outstanding. The faculty has really encouraged me to make a difference in the lives of people we support by giving me the necessary appreciation and confidence. They are always there to answer your questions or link you with wonderful community agencies. The teaching, along with group-related assignments, help students to get a taste of real-life situations in the workplace.

My experience in the program was nothing short of wonderful – the faculty, courses and learning are truly life-changing. My message to aspiring DSWs: There is nothing more rewarding than seeing individuals you support daily make strides. As a graduate, employers value the DSW diploma from Humber and are honoured to have us on board.



#### Alumni Stories: Police Foundations Program

#### WADOOD ALAM

Police Foundations program (PFP) alumni Wadood Alam joined the program at Humber in Fall of 2013, and successfully completed the program in April 2015.

Wadood says of his experience:

PFP allowed me to better understand the Canadian Charter of Rights & Freedom, the Criminal Code, and other laws one must abide to. What I truly loved about the program was the opportunity to get hands-on experience and think outside the box. I developed strong communication and leadership skills through making community connections. After successfully completing the program, I joined the BSS-Criminal Justice Degree at Humber and graduated with Honours in April 2019. Since becoming a Humber Alumni, I have been working as a Case Processing Agent (CPA) at the Immigration & Refugee Citizenship Canada (IRCC).

A very well-deserved congratulations to Wadood and we wish him all the very best in his new career!

#### CORY COURTNEY

Humber Orangeville PFP Alumni PC Cory Courtney recently received a Community Excellence Award from Shelburne Town Council, for his role in saving the life of a Shelburne resident.

Cory is a PFP Orangeville graduate from 2010 and has been an Officer with Shelburne Police since 2011.

#### CHRIS TAYLOR

Chris Taylor is a Humber Alumni of the Continuing Education Bylaw Enforcement course in Fall 2018. Since then, he has worked as a Provincial Offences Officer at the Ontario SPCA.

Recently, Chris has been hired as a Municipal Law Enforcement Officer in the Town of Orangeville and he credits the course material from his CE class, which he studied to prepare for his interview, with helping him to succeed and land the job! Wishing Chris, the very best of luck in his new career.





#### New Scholarships Available to Support Police Foundations Program Students from Underrepresented Groups

The Faculty of Social and Community Services (FSCS) is thrilled to announce new scholarships from the Motorola Solutions Foundation that will support Humber's future first responders from underrepresented groups. This new scholarship program – the Motorola Solutions Inclusivity Scholarships for First Responders, will support 12 students from traditionally underrepresented groups in the Police Foundations Program in the FSCS, as well as in the paramedic and pre-service firefighter programs in the Faculty of Health and Wellness.

To read more about the Motorola Solutions Inclusivity Scholarships for First Responders please visit the Humber Today article **here**.

To learn more about Humber's scholarship opportunities, visit Humber's **Scholarships and Bursaries** page.

## You're Invited to the Humber Cafe!



If the importance of connections wasn't clear before, the last year has really shown the true value of having a broad network – both personal and professional, in-person and remote.

Humber Café provides an opportunity for students and recent graduates to connect with alumni to help develop such a network within their industry.

#### Students and recent graduates can:

- · Gain a better understanding of what careers are available within their sector
- · Develop their networking and communications skills, through real-world practice
- Build their network of Humber College alumni based on their industry and interests

#### Humber Alumni who join the Humber Café, can enjoy:

- Helping current students and recent graduates to shape their careers by sharing career advice and experience
- · Developing their networking and mentoring skills through real-world practice
- Building their network of alumni and faculty

#### Interested? Here's how it works:



## HUMBER ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

#### Jill Andrew

Jill Andrew, Child and Youth Worker Alumni, is a transformational leader in contemporary culture. Since completing her diploma in 1998, she went on to become an award-winning columnist, public speaker, scholar, student equity advisor, youth, women's activist, and politician.

Jill is the Co-founder of the **Body Confidence Canada Awards** (BCCAs), the national #SizeismSUCKS Campaign, and the **Toronto International Body Image Film & Arts Festival**. She is also an MPP in Toronto, and the first Black and Queer person to be elected to the Ontario Legislature.

Listen to Jill share her #MyHumberStory here.



## Jill Andrew – #MyHumberStory

Read online at communityservices.humber.ca/news

1:52 / 4:27

53

🐮 🗖 🗖 🕙

CC

## **HUMBER ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT**

#### David Morales ..

The combination of my lived experiences and educational background have served as a catalyst to becoming a social justice advocate and conduit for those that are deeply marginalized.

After being introduced to a Youth Justice network, I decided to join the Community and Justice Services (CJS) Diploma Program at Humber in 2011.

My time in the CJS program provided me the opportunity to meet other like-minded students and faculty that are knowledgeable, resourceful, and committed to student success. During my second year, I completed a field placement at Toronto Community Housing Corporation (TCHC), where I gained practical knowledge and tools to become an effective leader, navigator and connector in Toronto's non-profit sector.

Being involved and engaged while in the program gave me an opportunity to continue to learn outside of the classroom and broaden my experience. After my placement at TCHC, I was hired by Humber as a Research Assistant, and worked closely with faculty, staff and other stakeholders, on assessing the impact and service needs of what was at the time, the soon to open Toronto South Detention Centre. I also volunteered as a First Year Experience (FYE) Peer Mentor that focuses on students' transition into college, both academically and socially.

Shortly before graduating in 2013, I secured a full-time job with TCHC and have since held different roles and responsibilities there, including working in Active Living, Revitalization, Mental Health and Wellbeing, Community Development and most recently in Youth Violence Reduction as a Community Services Coordinator.

I enjoy sharing my involvement and support for key initiatives and the importance of cross-sector collaborations wherever possible. I have had the privilege of being involved in some notable community wellbeing projects across the city, including a basketball court mural done in collaboration with StreetARToronto and local youth, that was recently highlighted in a **MLSE Foundation/Toronto Raptors video**, and setting up a community-run food bank and Summer Produce Market with Daily Bread, for which I was awarded the Best in Class Community Impact Award in 2019. These opportunities continue to provide avenues to learn and contribute to a more socially just city.

I have a deep gratitude and appreciation for my experience at Humber, which allowed me to develop a foundation that supported my personal and professional growth. All these years later, I continue to learn from the communities that I support and work with, and look forward to, taking on the new challenges and opportunities that come my way.



"I enjoy sharing my involvement and support for key initiatives and the importance of cross-sector collaborations wherever possible."

## **ALUMNI STORIES**



"When I first started my Police Foundations Program at Humber in 2016, I didn't realize how much it would impact my life."

#### Chris Bianchi, PFP.....

When I first started my Police Foundations Program (PFP) at Humber in 2016, I didn't realize how much it would impact my life. The courses were well put together and informative, but the best part was being around like-minded and passionate students and staff. I also took advantage of the many volunteer opportunities available through Humber to help me gain experience.

I was lucky enough to become a Platoon Leader with the 22 Division Toronto Police Rover Crew, which is one of the largest volunteering organizations the program has to offer. I was also fortunate enough to be the recipient of the Keith Howe Memorial Award where my academic success and commitment to volunteering were recognized.

After I completed the PFP, I returned to Humber for the Criminal Justice Degree bridge program. Since completing it in 2020, I have been working in security and improving myself by gaining more experience, being physically fit and remaining open to learn. By doing this, I am hoping to become a more competitive applicant to Police Services.

For anyone considering if the Police Foundations Program is right for them, consider the fact that the more effort you put in, the more you will get back from it. The PFP at Humber is more than just passing the final exams and receiving a diploma. Going the extra mile and networking with the fantastic professors, getting involved in extracurricular activities and striving to be the best version of yourself is how you will get the full Humber PFP experience. I am happy that I made the decision to take PFP and hope others can have similar experiences.

### **Dr. Dan Andreae Scholarship Celebration**

On May 12<sup>th</sup> we were honoured to host the Dr. Dan Andreae Scholarship Celebration. The Faculty of Social and Community Services had nine recipients from our Social Services Worker (SSW), Bachelor of Behaviour Sciences (BBS) and Developmental Services Worker (DSW) programs. Students were fortunate to have time to engage with Dr. Dan Andreae himself and share the incredible stories of their educational journey.

"I appreciate the generosity afforded to me by the Dr. Dan Andreae Commitment to Social Service Work Scholarship, and the opportunity to help me fulfill my dream of a career in human services and counselling psychology. I chose to complete my Social Service Worker Diploma at Humber College because I wanted to learn to support and empower individuals experiencing personal challenges and social issues. I hope to make an impact in policy and legislation and this scholarship has helped provide a pathway for my success, allowing me to focus on my education instead of worrying about financial constraints. It has helped me to grow my confidence and dedication to education and to the field of social service work. Thank you so much for your generous support for me and my learning experience!"



#### **CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS:**

Taylor Burns, Orianna D'cruz, Latoya Edwards, Kristyn Farrell, Francine Francis Kelly, Sydney Pilon, Lauren Southey, Angel Titco and Melesia Twigg.



#### "I would like to thank Dr. Dan Andreae from the bottom of my heart."

The student speaker at the celebration was DSW student, Orianna D'cruz.

"I would like to thank Dr. Dan Andreae from the bottom of my heart for the Leadership in Developmental Services Work Scholarship award, and for being gracious enough to help students like me who are passionate about the field they choose to be in, but sometimes are faced with challenges." **Advancement and Alumni** 

## SCHOLARS Emergency Bursary & Scholarship Updates

It goes without saying that this past year has been incredibly tough on our students, from the physical health aspects of COVID-19, to job loss and overall increased levels of stress and financial instability. As a Faculty, we know supporting our students financially can mean the difference between being able to complete a degree, and stopping studies. We are incredibly pleased to announce that in the 2020-2021 academic year, the Faculty of Social & Community Services (FSCS) has awarded \$10,000 in emergency bursaries to 40 students. To further support students in the midst of the global pandemic, an additional \$5,000 in electronic gift cards to Amazon, President's Choice, and the Humber Bookstore were provided, to help students purchase essential items and school supplies.

As a whole, our Faculty has also secured over \$55,000 in support of the emergency bursaries and newly established scholarships. We are thankful to Dr. Dan Andreae for supporting our students facing crisis with \$4,600 annually. Dr. Dan Andreae also supported nine specific program scholarships with \$18,000; the money was dispersed in \$2000 increments across the following scholarships: Commitment to Social Service Work Scholarships, Excellence in Behavioural Science Scholarships, and the Leadership in Developmental Services Work Scholarships.

The Punjabi Community Health Services also supported FSCS students with the \$1000 Punjabi Community Health Services Scholarship of Excellence, which aims to support a student in the Bachelor of Behavioural Sciences (BBS) or the Addictions and Mental Health (ADMH) programs, who self-identifies as Black/African, and has overcome adversity, and aims to work on issues related to anti-racism or anti-oppression.



Lastly, we are grateful to our partners at **Motorola Solutions Foundation** for their support of Humber's first responder programs. The Foundation generously provided twelve scholarships benefitting students in the Faculty's Police Foundations Program as well as the Pre-Service Firefighter and Paramedic programs in the Faculty of Health Sciences & Wellness. The Inclusivity Recruitment Scholarships provide scholarships to six students who identify as a member of an equity-seeking group and demonstrate financial need, while the Leadership in Action Scholarships recognize six emerging leaders from equity-seeking backgrounds.

Humber's Unlimited Campaign also launched the **Support our Students (SOS) Fund**. During this unprecedented time, our donors continue to make a difference in the lives of Humber students to ensure their future remains unlimited. Currently, the SOS Fund has raised over 1 million dollars, and supported over 8,000 students with Emergency Bursaries.

Read online at communityservices.humber.ca/news