



Supervisor, Corporate Nursing Executive (CNE) and Chair, Medical Advisory Committee (MAC) Report

June 2025

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Strategic and Operational Priorities

LHSC Supervisor David Musyj shares update on LHSC's path forward

On May 21, David Musyj, Supervisor at LHSC, shared an update with Team LHSC members and the community about the progress LHSC is making to improve its long-term financial health and organizational strength. In the fall of 2024, LHSC initiated a detailed organizational review led by an independent third party. The review examined leadership, governance, financial management, and the operation of both clinical and non-clinical programs. This review is now complete. A total of 169 recommendations were made, grouped into nine areas aimed at improving LHSC's operations, governance, leadership, and finances. Over the next three years, LHSC will implement all 169 recommendations. This work is also aligned with the [Community Advisory Committee \(CAC\) Surveys Report and Action Plan](#), ensuring a coordinated and thoughtful path forward. To learn more, please read the [letter to the community](#).

May Community Update Meeting

On May 21, LHSC hosted its May Community Update Meeting, providing community members with updates on key initiatives and operational priorities. Topics included the launch of LHSC's weapons detection system at the Victoria Hospital and Children's Hospital Emergency Departments (EDs), an update on LHSC's third-party organizational review, recognition of LHSC's Nursing Award recipients, cervical cancer screening, Biomedical Engineering, Patient Engagement, and the Regional Renal Program. A recording of the May meeting, as well as previous Community Update Meetings, is available on the LHSC [website](#).

June Community Update Meeting

On June 18, LHSC hosted its final Community Update Meeting before pausing for the summer. These meetings will resume in September. Since their launch in October 2024, LHSC's Community Update Meetings have featured updates from executive and physician leaders and team members on a variety of topics and programs across the organization. These meetings have played an important role in building connections with patients, families, and the community, while creating a space for open dialogue, transparency, and accountability. At the June meeting, LHSC shared updates on several key initiatives and operational priorities. Topics

included the Great Moments program, the annual Trauma Survivors Night, summer safety tips, and June observances such as National Indigenous History Month, Our London Family, and Pride month. Updates were also provided on LHSC's Adolescent and Young Adult Oncology Program, the Paediatric Trauma Program at Children's Hospital, and a preview of MazeMap, LHSC's digital mapping tool. A recording of the June meeting, as well as previous Community Update Meetings, is available on the LHSC [website](#).

Organizational Updates

LHSC celebrates National Indigenous History Month and National Indigenous Peoples Day

To celebrate National Indigenous History Month and reflect on LHSC's journey toward Reconciliation, LHSC's Indigenous Health team organized a series of educational and cultural events throughout June. These initiatives aimed to deepen the understanding of Indigenous cultures, traditions, and histories among Team LHSC and the broader community. For Team LHSC members, the month featured online learning opportunities and weekly quizzes that encouraged organization-wide engagement and learning.

In celebration of National Indigenous Peoples Day (June 21), an Indigenous cultural lunch and opening ceremony was held at University Hospital on June 18 and at Victoria Hospital and Children's Hospital on June 19. The ceremonies featured remarks by Elder Chris George from Oneida Nation of the Thames and Elder Mike Hopkins from Delaware Nation. The events also featured drumming, singing, and dancing by Gavin Summers Sr., Gavin Summers Jr., Errick Antone, and Ty Smoke. Following the ceremonies, a cultural lunch was served in the hospital cafeterias, featuring First Nations tacos, bison burgers, and strawberry cookies. The meals were prepared by Compass One Healthcare and Chef Shane Henry from Everrrr Deadle!, an Indigenous-owned catering company.

LHSC extends heartfelt gratitude to the three local First Nations communities, Chippewas of the Thames First Nation, Munsee-Delaware Nation and Oneida Nation of the Thames, for their continued partnership, guidance and support as LHSC continues its journey towards Truth and Reconciliation.

LHSC raises the Our London Family flag

To honour the memory of Our London Family and show support for the London Muslim community, the Our London Family flag was flown at Victoria Hospital, Children's Hospital, and

University Hospital from June 3 to June 8. June 6 marked four years since Our London Family was targeted in a horrific act of terrorism driven by Islamophobia — an act that caused heartbreak and left a lasting, traumatic impact on the community, including many members of Team LHSC. On June 6, and throughout the year, Team LHSC stands in solidarity with Londoners and communities across Canada to grieve, reflect, and reaffirm LHSC's commitment to confronting hate, racism, and Islamophobia.

LHSC raises the Progress Pride flag

To celebrate the unique identities and perspectives of 2SLGBTQIA+ individuals and demonstrate LHSC's commitment to equity and inclusion, the Progress Pride flag was raised at University Hospital, Victoria Hospital, and Children's Hospital on June 9. LHSC is dedicated to creating a more inclusive and welcoming environment — one where everyone feels safe to bring their whole selves to work and to receive care without fear of discrimination. Everyone deserves to feel safe, valued, and respected, and these principles guide LHSC's actions and decisions every day. On Sunday, July 20, LHSC will come together as a team to participate in the London Pride Parade, spreading joy and positivity throughout the community.

LHSC hosts annual Nursing Recognition Awards Ceremony

On Thursday, May 15, LHSC hosted its annual Nursing Recognition Awards Ceremony at Victoria Hospital during National Nursing Week, celebrating more than 130 of LHSC's outstanding nurses and team members for their contributions to patient care, education, innovation, and more. The event was generously supported by London Health Sciences Foundation (LHSF), Children's Health Foundation, Royal Bank of Canada, and WFCU Credit Union. Attendees heard inspiring stories that highlighted the meaningful impact nurses and interprofessional teams have made on patients, families, and one another. Nine awards were presented to recipients in the following categories: Suishanie Brooks (Advancing Equity and Inclusion Award), Jennifer Jaswal (Advancing Practice, Research and Innovation Award), Sarah Lafond (Excellence in Clinical Practice Award), Lena Johnston (Excellence in Nursing Leadership Award), Katie Caswell (Exceptional Person-Centered Care Award), the Post Anesthesia Care Unit at University Hospital (Exemplary Interprofessional Team Award), Jonathan Hogeterp (Cultivating Learning and Growth Award), Katrina (Katie) Koch (Outstanding Preceptor, Coach or Mentor Award), and Lina Martins (LHSC 150 Years Legacy Award, created in honour of LHSC's 150th anniversary). To learn more, visit the LHSC [website](#).

Smoking cessation program now available for Head and Neck cancer patients at LHSC

LHSC patients with a head and neck cancer diagnosis now have access to STOP (Smoking Treatment for Ontario Patients), a smoking cessation program from the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health (CAMH). The program offers nicotine replacement therapy (NRT), such as patches, gum, lozenges, and inhalers, alongside personalized counselling. Patients receive up to 26 weeks of NRT and counselling support free of charge. This is an important development for LHSC patients, as quitting smoking during treatment for head and neck cancers can reduce treatment-related toxicities, lower the risk of disease progression, and improve the overall treatment experience. LHSC teams supporting this program receive training from CAMH, covering key smoking cessation principles such as behaviour modification, lifestyle changes, and the common challenges individuals face when trying to quit. To learn more, visit the LHSC [website](#) or read the coverage by [CTV London](#).

LHSC upskilling initiative helping nurses care for higher acuity patients

LHSC's upskilling initiative is supporting nurses in developing the skills needed to care for patients who are stable enough to be managed outside the Intensive Care Unit (ICU). It's an innovative way to increase ICU capacity while ensuring patients receive the right care in the right place. The new training program was introduced in select level two inpatient units across Victoria Hospital and was facilitated by Inpatient Surgical Services, the Critical Care Trauma Centre, and Nursing Practice Excellence and Innovation. It includes in-class learning with critical care clinical educators, certifications, competency checklists, assessments, and buddy shifts with ICU nurses. To date, 34 nurses have completed the training, equipping level two trained nurses with more advanced skills to monitor vital body systems such as the heart, lungs, and brain. To learn more, visit the LHSC [website](#).

Media and Storytelling

Media coverage and metrics

The following highlight metrics from LHSC's May media exposure:

Total news media mentions (media exposure): 267

- Negative – 8 (3%)
- Neutral – 47 (17.6%)
- Positive – 212 (79.4%)

Total potential reach (number of people who saw LHSC mentioned in the news): Approximately 1.37 billion

Earned media average (how much LHSC would have to spend on ad placement to achieve this type of coverage): Approximately \$12.3 million

Top Stories by Reach:

- 382.1 million reached:
 - [Doctors expose TikTok's mouth taping fad as unproven, risky, and medically unsafe](#) - Yahoo! News
- 110.2 million reached:
 - [No evidence mouth taping is effective and could be harmful for some, new study says](#) - MSN Health CA
- 28 million reached:
 - [External review of LHSC shows hospital challenged by 'self imposed' problems](#) - CBC London
- 12.6 million reached:
 - ['I've gotten my life back': London, Ont., neurosurgeon transforming the way Ontarians deal with back pain](#) - CTV London
- 12.6 million reached:
 - [Air pollution linked to epilepsy risk, study finds](#) - CTV London
- 8.1 million reached:
 - [Pregnant Ontarians are getting caught up in the measles outbreak. Doctors are racing to figure out how to care for them](#) - The Toronto Star

Coverage analysis:

May was an exceptionally busy month for the Communications and Public Engagement team as it facilitated 23 reactive requests and four proactive media stories. The proactive stories included research from LHSCRI, Lawson Research Institute of St. Joseph's, and Western University assessing the effectiveness of a [viral mouth taping trend](#); a study from LHSCRI and Western examining the link between [air pollution and epilepsy](#); an [Ontario-first spinal surgery](#); and LHSC's May Community Update Meeting and associated media scrum. The mouth taping study received an abundance of interest both locally, nationally and even internationally attracting media inquiries from outlets including CNN, the New York Post, CBC, Global News, the Toronto Star, the Globe and Mail, Yahoo! and The Canadian Press. Outlets from Denmark and Norway also covered the story. In total, 22 media organizations completed, or are in the process of completing, interviews with spokesperson Dr. Brian Rotenberg.

Some information about LHSC's detailed organizational review was shared during the Community Update Meeting on May 21 as well as an update on the rollout of our weapons

detection system in the Emergency Departments of Victoria Hospital, Children's Hospital, and University Hospital.

On the reactive front, many of May's nearly two dozen media inquiries were interview requests to speak with Dr. Michelle Barton-Forbes about the ongoing regional surge in measles cases, including one from CBC's The National late in the month.

Social media

The Communications and Public Engagement team posted 39 pieces of content across LHSC's social media platforms in May (Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn, X). The content highlighted the work of LHSC team members and hospital initiatives.

Total social media followers (across all platforms): 86,688 (+ 1,245 new followers, +1.5%)

**number of stakeholders/members of the public that see and have the potential to engage with LHSC's stories on a regular basis.*

Total social media impressions: 731,647

**number of times posts across all LHSC social media platforms appeared on someone's screen*

Total social media engagements: 49,390

**number of people who liked, commented, or shared LHSC's content/stories on social media*

Top social media posts by engagement included:

- Patient Safety featuring Mike Moussa, Porter | [Facebook](#)
- Weapons detection system launch at Victoria Hospital | [Instagram](#)
- The National Day of Action for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls and 2SLGBTQIA+ People | [LinkedIn](#)

Social media analysis:

Audiences continue to recognize the hard work of Team LHSC, which was seen as many celebrated Mike Moussa, Porter this month. The feature highlighted how porters play a role in keeping patients safe, which resonated with many users.

The announcement of the weapons detection system at Victoria Hospital and Children's Hospital received plenty of community engagement. Many understood how the system worked as we had posted about the initial launch in April. This month, users were encouraged to see the system expand to the entrance to Victoria Hospital and Children's Hospital Emergency Departments.

The National Day of Action for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls and 2SLGBTQIA+ People was recognized across all platforms and saw particularly high engagement on LinkedIn as we not only recognized the importance of the day, but highlighted the specific ways that LHSC remained committed to doing our part to raise awareness, take action, and advance Indigenous health equity.

Content on London Health Sciences Centre Research Institute continues to see positive engagement and growth across all platforms. We are currently sitting at 3,636 followers across all platforms and have generated over 15,400 impressions and 1K+ engagements in May.

LHSC performs first spinal endoscopic surgery in Ontario

LHSC Neurosurgeon Dr. Neil Duggal successfully performed Ontario's first spinal endoscopic surgery, marking a major advancement in the treatment of spinal disorders. This innovative technique uses an endoscope to visualize the spine through small incisions, offering the most minimally invasive approach to treating conditions such as herniated discs, spinal stenosis, and other degenerative disc diseases. Spinal endoscopy represents the next step forward in minimally invasive spinal surgery. The procedure dramatically reduces tissue damage and post-operative pain, leading to faster recovery times, and improved outcomes. For Ontario's first patient, Marie, the surgery resulted in no post-operative back discomfort. To learn more, visit the LHSC [website](#) or read the coverage by [CTV London](#).

New study exposes dangers of mouth-taping trend growing on social media

A viral mouth taping trend is growing on social media with influencers and celebrities promoting it as a way to improve sleep, enhance oral health, and provide anti-aging benefits. However, a new study from Lawson Research Institute (Lawson) of St. Joseph's Health Care London, London Health Sciences Centre Research Institute (LHSCRI), and Western University's Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry is debunking these claims and warning about the serious health risks associated with the practice. Published in *PLOS ONE*, the study found that taping the mouth during sleep can be dangerous — particularly for individuals with sleep-disordered breathing and obstructive sleep apnea. The practice may worsen these conditions by restricting airflow, placing additional stress on the respiratory system, and increasing the risk of suffocation. With misinformation spreading easily on social media, the study urges people to stop mouth taping and understand the risks. To learn more, visit the LHSCRI [website](#), read the coverage by [The Canadian Press](#) and [Global News](#), watch the coverage by [CTV Toronto](#), or listen to the on-air coverage from [CBC Radio](#) and [980 CFPL Global News Radio](#). You can also watch the [social media video](#) featuring Dr. Brian Rotenberg, Otolaryngology Head and Neck Surgeon at St.

Joseph's Health Care London and LHSC, and researcher at Lawson, LHSCRI, and Schulich Medicine & Dentistry.

LHSCRI and Western University researchers find air pollution may increase epilepsy risk

Air pollution has been linked to a wide variety of health issues and now researchers at LHSCRI and Western University's Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry have found an association between long-term exposure to air pollution and new cases of epilepsy in adults in Ontario. Published in *Epilepsia*, the study found that higher exposure to fine particulate matter increased the likelihood of developing epilepsy by 5.5 per cent, while exposure to ozone increased it by 9.6 per cent. The study utilized data from the Canadian Urban Environmental Health Research Consortium, which was linked to Ontario's health administrative databases and analyzed at the Institute for Clinical Evaluative Sciences (ICES). It's the first time databases have been used to make a direct connection between new cases of epilepsy and exposure to air pollution. To learn more about this research, visit the LHSCRI [website](#) or watch the coverage by [CTV London](#).

LHSCRI scientists part of worldwide study to better predict preeclampsia

Dr. Genevieve Eastabrook and Dr. Barbra de Vrijer, researchers at LHSCRI and Obstetricians at LHSC, are collaborating with researchers around the world to better understand and predict preeclampsia — a high blood pressure condition experienced by pregnant individuals that can lead to organ damage and, if left untreated, even death. The study is investigating whether arterial hardening — when blood vessels that carry blood from your heart to the rest of the body become stiff, thick, or less flexible — can serve as a marker to identify pregnant individuals at risk of preeclampsia. At this time, there is no reliable way to predict who will develop this condition. By improving our ability to predict preeclampsia, this research could help prevent life-threatening complications and reduce deaths among pregnant individuals and their babies. To learn more about this research, please visit the LHSCRI [website](#).

LHSCRI and SickKids spotlight the dangers of measles to pregnant people and their babies

As measles continues to spread in pockets of southwestern Ontario and other parts of Canada, researchers at LHSCRI and The Hospital for Sick Children (SickKids) in Toronto are raising awareness about the serious risks the virus poses to pregnant people and their babies. A new article published in the *Canadian Medical Association Journal*, titled "[Five things to know](#)

[about...Measles in Pregnancy](#)”, highlights how measles increases the risk of complications such as hospitalization during pregnancy, miscarriage, premature birth, and severe congenital infection. Pregnant people are also at greater risk of complications, including pneumonia, hepatitis, and even death. This article highlights the renewed threat and provides health-care providers, who may have never encountered a measles case firsthand, with information to help protect pregnant people and their babies. To learn more, visit the LHSCRI [website](#) or watch the coverage by [CBC’s The National](#).

LHSCRI collaboration leads to new recommendations for supporting students experiencing a mental health crisis

A collaboration between LHSCRI, McGill University, and Douglas Mental Health University Institute has resulted in a new set of clinical practice recommendations aimed at helping health-care providers support students experiencing a mental health crisis. Recently published in the *Canadian Medical Association Journal (CMAJ)*, the study offers practical ways to reframe how we view mental health crises and to consider an individual's life context to provide more personalized care. One key recommendation is to ensure students see the same clinician for follow-up appointments, which helps foster trust and strengthen the therapeutic relationship. Using open-ended questions, showing genuine interest, and seeking feedback are a few strategies for building rapport during therapy. To learn more, visit the LHSCRI [website](#).

Awards, Recognitions & Publications

RBC Foundation donates \$750,000 to London Health Sciences Foundation and Children’s Health Foundation

On May 13, RBC Foundation announced a \$750,000 donation to London Health Sciences Foundation (LHSF) and Children’s Health Foundation (CHF) to support frontline education and upskilling. At LHSC, this investment will significantly benefit nursing teams through the BETTY program — Bringing Education and Technology to You — which delivers short, on-unit simulation training sessions directly to hospital units. These 15- to 30-minute hands-on sessions allow nurses and health discipline professionals to sharpen their skills and build confidence in

their unit, with their team, and where they are most comfortable. The donation will accelerate the growth of BETTY across LHSC, expanding access to essential, real-time learning opportunities for nursing teams throughout London and the region. At Children's Hospital, the gift will support paediatric simulation through the Paediatric Regional Outreach Program (PROP) where expanding access to experiential simulation training will enable frontline teams in smaller urban and rural hospitals to hone their skills and be better equipped to respond swiftly and confidently. This donation is part of a national \$7 million initiative by RBC Foundation, announced during National Nursing Week (May 12–18), aimed at reskilling, upskilling, and strengthening the resiliency of health-care providers across Canada. To learn more, visit the LHSF [website](#).

Domino's Pizza donates \$500,000 to support epilepsy treatment at LHSC

A generous \$500,000 donation from Domino's Pizza, Inc., made through LHSF, has provided LHSC with specialized equipment to perform laser ablation procedures for epilepsy treatment. For patients like Steve Kieffer, the procedure has ended a decade-long struggle with seizures. The introduction of laser ablation technology at LHSC marks a significant advancement in epilepsy care for the region. The minimally invasive procedure offers an alternative to traditional open brain surgery, reducing damage to surrounding brain tissue and lowering the risk of infection. With a success rate of 50 to 60 per cent, it complements LHSC's existing surgical approaches and expands treatment options for patients. To learn more, visit the LHSF [website](#) or watch the coverage from [CTV London](#).

Shared Decision Making at Children's Hospital recognized as a Leading Practice

The Shared Decision-Making (SDM) and Decision Coaching program at Children's Hospital at LHSC has been [recognized as a leading practice](#) by Health Standards Organization. This innovative program empowers patients and their caregivers to collaborate closely with health-care providers and a trained Decision Coach when facing complex care decisions. The approach ensures that patients and caregivers are fully informed about all available care options — including potential risks and benefits — while also helping health-care professionals gain a deeper understanding of the patient's and family's values, needs, and concerns. The process typically begins when a patient or caregiver is faced with a difficult health decision. An appointment is scheduled with a Decision Coach, who guides them through each option. The patient and caregiver then return to their health-care provider to finalize the decision, supported by a more comprehensive and personalized understanding of their choices. The program has helped more than 300 patients since its inception in 2018.

Research funding announcements

The following researchers from London Health Sciences Centre Research Institute (LHSCRI) have been awarded funding:

- Drs. Charles Weijer, Lorelei Lingard, Marat Slessarev, and Matthew Weiss were awarded funding through the Canadian Institutes of Health Research to build a national platform for trust-preserving implementation of normothermic regional perfusion in deceased organ donation in Canada - \$745,872 (four years)
- Dr. Amit Garg was awarded funding through the Academic Medical Organization of Southwestern Ontario (AMOSO) Innovation Fund for the study entitled “The risk of adverse outcomes after starting common medications in older adults with low kidney function: Verifying signals of harm identified through high-throughput computing” - \$226,659
- Dr. Chris McIntyre was awarded funding through the New Frontiers Research Fund for the study entitled “Effect of intra-dialyzer refrigeration on microvascular perfusion and the biocompatibility profile of hemodialysis” - \$250,000
- Dr. Chris McIntyre was awarded funding through the Heart and Stroke Foundation for an exploratory study of pharmacological cerebrovascular endothelial stabilization to reduce hemodialysis-induced recurrent brain injury and to provide long term neuroprotection - \$320,000
- Dr. Chris McIntyre awarded funding through the AMOSO Innovation Fund for an initial assessment of a wearable Residual Ultrafiltration Device (RUF-D) to address challenges associated with inadequate volume management in hemodialysis patients - \$219,954

External Landscape

Prime Minister of Canada announces new Cabinet

On May 13, Prime Minister Mark Carney announced the members of Canada’s [new Cabinet](#), which includes newly appointed ministers responsible for advancing health research within a more holistic vision — one that aims to ensure research in Canada benefits both the health of the nation and the economy through synergy between academia and industry. Key members involved in health research advocacy include: Marjorie Michel, Minister of Health; Mélanie Joly, Minister of Industry; Evan Solomon, Minister of Artificial Intelligence and Digital Innovation and Minister responsible for the Federal Economic Development Agency for Southern Ontario;

François-Philippe Champagne, Minister of Finance and National Revenue; and Dominic LeBlanc, President of the King's Privy Council for Canada and Minister responsible for Canada-U.S. Trade, Intergovernmental Affairs and One Canadian Economy.

Ontario government introduces the *Primary Care Act*

On May 7, 2025, the Ontario government introduced the [Primary Care Act, 2025](#) to establish a framework for the province's publicly funded primary care system, ensuring that Ontarians understand what to expect when accessing these services across the province. The legislation is part of the government's [Primary Care Action Plan](#), which aims to connect two million more people to publicly funded primary care over the next four years. The *Primary Care Act, 2025* sets out six key objectives for Ontario's primary care system: to ensure province-wide access; connection with existing health and social services; convenient and timely access to care; inclusivity; digital integration; and responsiveness to the needs of communities. For Ontario hospitals, this signals an important evolution in the province's community health strategy. It creates opportunities for enhanced coordination with primary care providers and supports a more seamless and continuous care experience for patients.

Indwell receives \$4.8 million in new funding from Health and Homelessness Fund for Change

On June 11, the Health and Homelessness Fund for Change announced \$4.8 million in capital funding for [Indwell](#) to support the creation of 96 new highly supportive housing apartments. The funding will go toward renovating a century-old building in the [Village SoHo](#) community on the old grounds of LHSC's South Street Hospital. In addition, Indwell revealed that an anonymous donor has pledged \$1.1 million in matching funds as part of the organization's \$5 million community fundraising goal for the project. All donations made toward the building renovation between May 1 and December 31, 2025 will be matched by the anonymous donor. Highly supportive housing is a key element of [London's Health and Homelessness Whole of Community System Response](#). To date, 406 highly supportive housing units are either open, under development, or part of endorsed proposals seeking funding. This includes 49 units at the House of Hope, operated by London Cares in partnership with LHSC. To learn more, visit the London Community Foundation [website](#).

Statistics Canada outlines the Canadian research and development pharmaceutical sector's impact on the Canadian economy

On May 12, Statistics Canada published a study examining the contribution of Canada's research and development (R&D) pharmaceutical sector to the national economy in 2022. The sector made a significant impact, with notable increases in gross value added (GVA) and employment. GVA rose by 14.8 per cent to \$18.4 billion, representing 0.7 per cent of Canada's gross domestic product. Ontario and Quebec accounted for 83.8 per cent of the sector's GVA, with Ontario contributing \$9.0 billion and Quebec \$6.4 billion. The sector also experienced a significant rise in employment in 2022, reaching its highest level since 2018. The number of full-time equivalent (FTE) positions increased by 7.9 per cent, totalling 110,817 jobs. To learn more, visit the Statistics Canada [website](#).

Investments in Ontario's 2025 budget aim to strengthen hospital-based research institutes

On May 15, the Ontario government released the [2025 Ontario Budget: A Plan to Protect Ontario](#). Several initiatives outlined in the budget have the potential to increase resources and foster industry collaborations for hospital-based research institutes. These investments include an additional \$15 million to renew the Life Sciences Innovation Fund over three years starting in 2025–26, aimed at supporting life sciences companies in advancing innovative, capital-intensive projects from concept to commercialization. The budget also allocates an additional \$90 million in venture capital funding through Venture Ontario, including \$50 million for Ontario-based venture capital funds focused on technologies related to national defence — such as artificial intelligence (AI) and cybersecurity — and \$40 million for funds that support innovation and growth in life sciences and biomanufacturing. An additional \$207 million will also be invested over three years beginning in 2025–26 through the Ontario Research Fund – Research Infrastructure (ORF-RI), providing funding to institutions such as Ontario universities, colleges, and research hospitals to acquire infrastructure and engage in global research and development.