

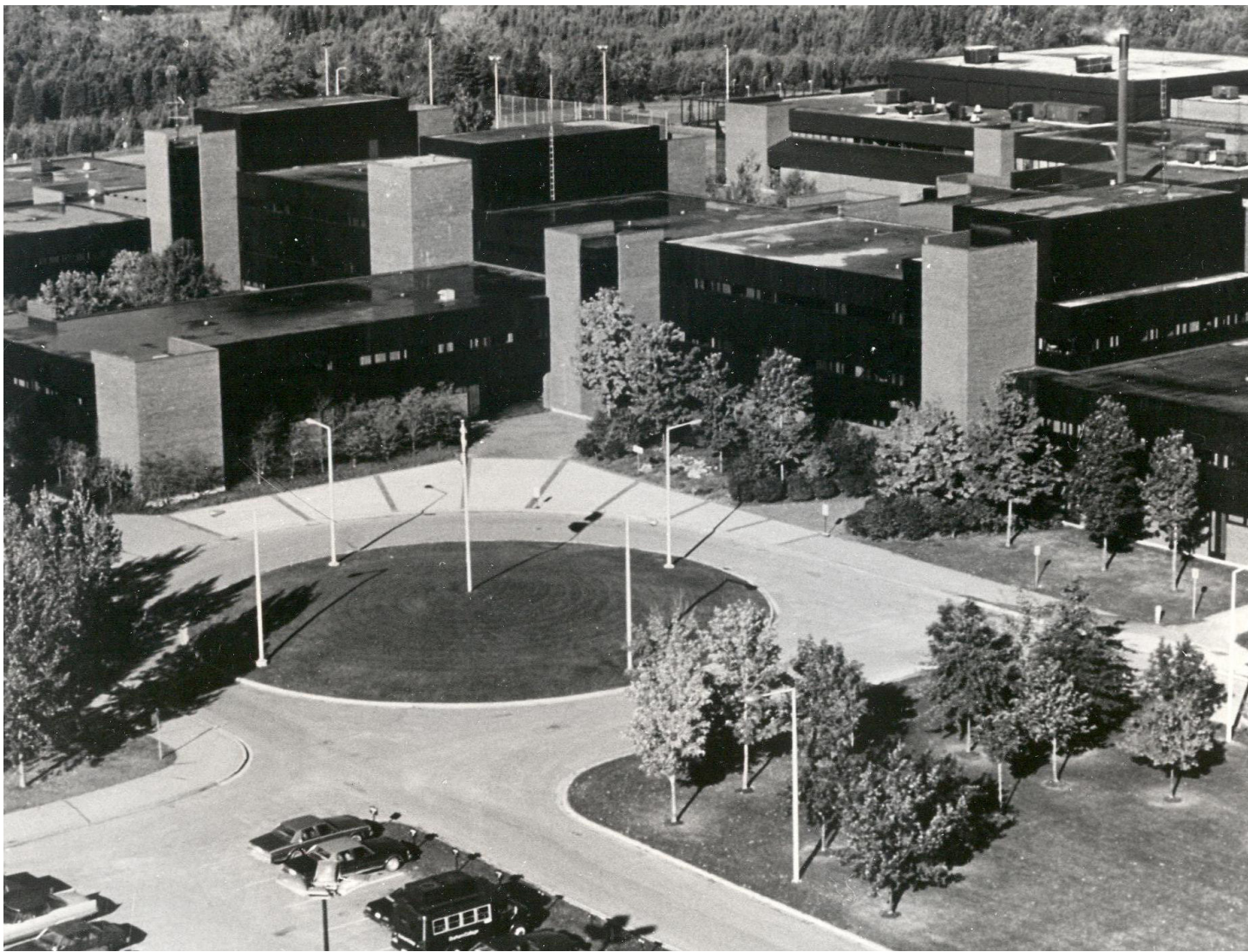


FEBRUARY 2015

Durham College
named one of
GTA's top
employers

Operation Give
Back set to bring
the student
experience to life

DC alumni
show school
spirit to cheer on
Oshawa Generals
at sold-out
Alumni Night



We're counting down to Durham College's (DC) 50th anniversary in 2017. Stay connected with us to be in the loop on DC's celebration activities. Update your information [here](#) and connect with us on [LinkedIn](#).

Do you have a story idea or something to share? Is there anything you would like to read about? We would love to hear from you!

Please email alumni@durhamcollege.ca with your comments, questions or suggestions.

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ABOUT THIS ISSUE

The award-winning DC Alumni magazine is written, designed and published by the Communications and Marketing department to complement the Reflections publication prepared three times a year by students in Durham College's (DC) Public Relations program. Both are available by visiting our [Alumni publications page](#).



Message from the president

It may be chilly, but the cold weather hasn't slowed us down; staff, faculty and students are busier than ever. Work has even begun on Durham College's (DC) 50th anniversary celebration, which we will mark in 2017, alongside other colleges across Ontario. This momentous occasion also coincides with Canada's 150th birthday so we're in good company. The anniversary may seem far away, but as we consider DC's rich history, we're dedicating ample time and energy into the planning and execution of a celebration worthy of this amazing milestone.

There have been a lot of changes at the college in its nearly 50 years. When DC first opened its doors in 1967 it had 205 students and they attended classes in 16 portables. You only have to look at our campuses today to see the extensive changes and growth we have gone through. In fact, DC continues to lead the Ontario college system in growth, with enrolment increasing 61 per cent over the past six years.

In preparation for our 50th anniversary, a working committee has been established under the leadership of Scott Blakey, vice-president,

Administration. If any alumni would like to get involved or have ideas on how we can mark this momentous occasion, please get in touch with Lori Connor in the Alumni office.

As the college has grown, so too has the need for greater student support. In an ongoing effort to put the student experience first, DC recently honoured our hard-working scholarship and bursary recipients and donors at a special recognition evening, held at Bistro '67 and the Centre for Food.

The college also achieved record-breaking results for its Food Drive this year thanks to the efforts of staff, faculty, students and volunteers from DC and UOIT, and the DC Alumni Association, in partnership with the Student Association and the Kinsmen Club of Oshawa. Student need for assistance has doubled in recent years and the entire DC community stepped up; a total of \$42,000 was raised, benefiting 172 students and their families, including 218 children.

Student support is such an important part of what we do at the college and our grads play a huge role in making DC what it is today.

As we prepare to celebrate where we've been,
we're also eagerly anticipating the future and
looking forward to all our alumni being a key
part of it.

Sincerely,
Don Lovisa



DC hosts student and donor recognition evening

Durham College (DC) held a Student and Donor Recognition Evening in appreciation of the college's generous donors and hard-working scholarship and bursary recipients on January 12.

Hosted at DC's [Centre for Food](#), the evening began with donors enjoying a meal and address from Emma Nicholls, a DC scholarship recipient and [Journalism - Print student](#).

“When someone acknowledges your hard work with the donation of a scholarship, there are simply no words to convey the appreciation

and relief that is felt,” said Nicholls. “I want to thank the donors for sharing their resources to show all of the recipients that we made the right choice by coming to school. We wouldn't be receiving a quality education without your support and generosity.”

After dinner, donors were invited to a dessert reception where they were joined by 150 student recipients. Over a mix of desserts, coffee, tea and punch, donors had a chance to mingle and find out more about the hard-working students receiving the generous awards.





Students mixed and mingled with Durham College donors, including Joyce Marshall (middle left) who awards \$500 annually to a student in the Early Childhood Education diploma program and Roger Anderson, Regional Chair and CEO of the Region of Durham (middle right). The region provides several awards and scholarships annually.

“We are all very proud to celebrate these students as they represent the high-quality, success and calibre of all Durham College students,” said Don Lovisa, president, DC. “Having had the opportunity to meet many of the 150 students who were on hand, I have further reassurance that our future is in good hands.”

Each year the Durham College Scholarship program recognizes academic excellence by providing in-course scholarships to the top two students in each diploma program. In 2014, 220 students were recognized for their

academic excellence, along with 140 students who benefitted thanks to the generosity of individual and corporate donors.

DC is also committed to meeting the financial need of its post-secondary and returning students. The bursaries provided to these students help support their personal commitment to improve their own lives and the lives of their families.

DC is grateful for the encouragement and endorsement from all of its donors to help all students succeed.

Durham College named one of GTA's top employers

Durham College (DC) is being recognized as a great place to work having been named one of Greater Toronto's Top Employers for 2015 for the fifth year running.

The college is proud to be recognized in several areas of full-time employee support including: providing continued skills development through a variety of in-house and online training programs and tuition subsidies for courses taken at external institutions; investing in the education of our people and their children with substantial tuition reimbursements; helping employees save for retirement with generous contributions to a

defined benefit pension plan; and supporting young families through offering exceptional maternity and parental leave top-up payments.

This recognition also acknowledges DC's [Sustainability Committee](#) for promoting awareness and understanding, and practicing environmental, social and economic responsibility.

"Durham College is proud to be named one of Greater Toronto's top employers for the fifth year in a row," said Scott Blakey, vice-president, Administration. "This honour reflects our commitment to retaining exceptional, talented





people who contribute towards creating a family-like culture at DC. Our faculty and staff are the best and brightest, and fully support our mission that the student experience comes first. Being recognized by Mediacorp Canada/ Canada's Top 100 Employers for providing employees with the opportunities, resources and benefits they need to be successful demonstrates our strong commitment and dedication to our faculty and staff.”

Greater Toronto's Top Employers is an annual competition organized by the editors of Canada's Top 100 Employers. This special designation recognizes the greater Toronto area

employers that lead their industries in offering exceptional places to work. Organizations are judged on several categories including: physical workplace; work and social atmosphere; health, financial and family benefits; vacation and time off; employee communications; performance management; training and skills development; and community involvement. Employers are compared to other organizations in their field to determine which offers the most progressive and forward-thinking programs.

For more information, please visit www.canadastop100.com/toronto.

Durham College and partners launch FastStart program

DC ALUMNI INVITED TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS GREAT OPPORTUNITY

Durham College (DC), with the University of Ontario Institute of Technology (UOIT), Fleming College and Trent University, recently announced that the four organizations are working with Spark Centre and the Greater Peterborough Innovation Cluster (GPIC), on the new FastStart program (FastStart), a powerful new resource designed to help university and college students and graduates acquire entrepreneurial skills and convert innovative business ideas into successful companies.

DC alumni who are interested in participating in this program or who would be willing to serve as mentors to aspiring student entrepreneurs may contact Rebecca Holmes, entrepreneurship co-ordinator, at 905.721.2000 ext. 3578 or faststartdc@durhamcollege.ca.

FastStart is an entrepreneurial training partnership designed to increase the entrepreneurship skills and awareness of university and college students, and help them develop solid business plans and take products to market. It is being funded through an \$800,000 Government of Ontario grant being shared equally among all four post-secondary institutions under the province's \$5-million On-Campus Entrepreneurship Activities (OCEA) program, managed by Ontario Centres of Excellence (OCE).



FASTSTART FEATURES INCLUDE:

- Availability to students at all four institutions, in all fields of study, including graduates and youth in the community with an entrepreneurial spirit.
- Customized services to help participants refine their ideas, build teams and prepare solid business plans to deliver products to market.
- Programs such as boot camps and student incubators.
- Progressive, more focused programs to students with demonstrated interest and ability.
- Opportunities for students and graduates to transition through FastStart to the Spark Centre, GPIC or local business access development centres where they can access additional services to help them quickly advance and launch their businesses.

The OCEA program is part of Ontario's Youth Jobs Strategy, which is seeing the province invest \$295 million over two years to help 30,000 more youth from across the province connect with the tools, experiences and entrepreneurial support they need to find employment or start their own businesses.

Funded by the Government of Ontario, the Ontario Network of Entrepreneurs (ONE) is Ontario's innovation system. The ONE is made up of regional and sector-focused organizations designed to help Ontario-based entrepreneurs rapidly grow their companies and create jobs.

For more information visit www.oneinnovation.ca.

Operation Give Back set to bring the student experience to life

In January, Durham College (DC) Alumni office staff began working with a group of current students who formed a team called Operation Give Back, which is being co-chaired by [Kerri-Ann Williams](#), a second-year [Biomedical Engineering Technology](#) student and member of [Team Experience](#), and Sally Hillis, annual development and alumni operations administrator for DC.

“This group was established to help students find creative ways to develop new friendships and to give back to the college, helping to further enhance the student experience,” said Hillis. “The team’s plan is to raise support for various initiatives that will not only directly benefit students as they work towards meaningful careers, but will also raise awareness about the importance of giving back.”

The first project for Operation Give Back is to help promote the upcoming School Cup Challenge, sponsored by the Alumni Association. School Cup Challenge is a friendly competition between the college’s academic schools that provides an opportunity for graduating students to win \$500 along with other great prizes; and results in the top two winning schools awarding bursaries to two students for the following academic year. This event is sponsored by the Alumni Association.

Examples of other projects up for consideration include: finding support to purchase additional microwaves to help reduce lineups during busy lunch periods when students have limited time between classes and additional computer charging stations for students.

For more information, please contact Hillis at sally.hillis@durhamcollege.ca or 905.721.2000 ext. 6262.

SCHOOL CUP CHALLENGE



Operation Give Back was established to help students find creative ways to develop new friendships and give back to the college, helping to further enhance the student experience.

Find out what Team Experience is up to – and be a part of it!

Fourteen Durham College (DC) students started their school year in September by launching a social networking website where they're sharing their stories with you.

Check out the video to see just what they've been up to. They've connected on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram more than 20,000 times, on YouTube more than 150,000 times, and through more than 100 amazing blogs to give you authentic, real-time accounts of life at DC from their own perspective.

[Follow along](#) to check out their adventures, and be a part of it.



[WATCH VIDEO](#)



EXPERIENCE



BE A PART OF IT WWW.DURHAMCOLLEGE.CA/X

DC alumni show school spirit to cheer on Oshawa Generals at sold-out Alumni Night

In celebration of Durham College (DC) Alumni Night, the Alumni Association welcomed many DC alumni to the General Motors Centre to cheer on the Oshawa Generals as they faced off against the Peterborough Petes on home ice.

While the Generals lost 5-4 in overtime, the evening was filled with fun, and alumni reconnected with each other at a reception over snacks and beverages.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR DOOR PRIZE WINNERS:

- Mike Beaton
(signed Toronto Maple Leafs stick)
- Kevin Dougherty
(Toronto Maple Leafs tickets)
- Brendan Oldman (DC Alumni jacket)
- Brad Calderone (DC Alumni golf shirt)
- Sam Thomas (DC picture)
- Julie Hunt (Oshawa Generals tickets)
- Cheryl Weir and David Munro (DC gift bags)

Thanks to all who came out. We can't wait to see you at the next Alumni event!



Durham College President, Don Lovisa (left), Doug Wilson, student governor, School of Applied Arts & Technology (middle) and Lesley Wagner, professor and Alumni Association president (right), along with a full-house of DC Alumni, cheered on the Oshawa Generals at a sold-out Alumni Night event.

Photo credit: Ian Goodall

Pathway to degree from DC to Ireland

Durham College (DC) offers more than 450 pathway-to-degree options for students including a pathway agreement with the Institutes of Technology Ireland (IOTI), a representative body for 13 institutes of technology in Ireland. The agreement provides an opportunity for graduates of specific two- and three-year Ontario college programs to earn an honours degree abroad, in some cases earning the degree with only one additional year of study.

Jessamyn Adams, a [DC Accounting – Business Administration](#) graduate, is one such student that has taken advantage of this unique opportunity as she completed a Bachelors of Business – Accounting and Finance at the Institute of Technology – Blanchardstown in Dublin, Ireland following her time at DC.

“When I read I could obtain my degree in only one further year of study rather than the two I would need in Ontario, I thought I should at least apply,” said Adams. “ITB offered me the most generous exemptions for the diploma I had already completed and even though I had

never been to Ireland I knew it as somewhere I wanted to explore and what better way than to live there.”

The pathways agreement with DC was developed between IOTI and Colleges Ontario, an advocacy organization for Ontario’s 24 community colleges. The agreement primarily pertains to programs within the schools of [Business, IT & Management](#) and [Science & Engineering Technology \(SET\)](#), offering students the chance to further their post-secondary education abroad while experiencing one of the world’s most dynamic and lively countries.

“My experience working with the Irish Institutes enabling students to further their education abroad has been excellent,” said Susan Todd, dean of SET. “Many Canadian students now have the opportunity to transfer their college credits to obtain a degree in a beautiful English-speaking country, which will broaden their horizons both culturally and academically.”

Support abounds for students looking to take advantage of the pathway opportunity. “Start to finish they made my transition to Ireland so great,” said Adams. “Once I accepted, I was put in contact with an international officer and he answered my incessant questions from everything to do with my courses to where I was going to live and how to get around.”

Students can visit [Colleges Ontario](https://www.collegesontario.ca/) for background information on the agreement itself, in addition to the IOTI website, which offers additional information on specific academic bridging requirements per program/institution. For information on other pathway opportunities, please visit www.durhamcollege.ca/programs-and-courses/pathways-further-your-education.



Sports shorts

DURHAM LORDS PLAY LIKE CHAMPIONS ON AND OFF THE COURT

It was a rapid start to the season with the [Durham Lords](#) hitting the courts in succession with men's and women's volleyball, and men's and women's basketball.

The women's volleyball team was lobbed right into play for the 27th Annual Adidas Cup. On January 2 and 3, 12 teams from across Ontario were invited to participate in the tournament hosted by the college at the [Campus Recreation and Wellness Centre \(CRWC\)](#). The Lords took fifth place with a 2-0 win against Canadore College while Sheridan College took the gold in a 2-0 game against St. Clair College. They will look to enter the Ontario Colleges Athletic Association (OCAA) Volleyball Championship with a win in the qualifying round.

Off the court, the women's team was spreading good karma by serving the community before the holidays. They held a fundraiser to collect unwrapped toys and non-perishable food items to help support the organization in meeting the needs of women, children, youth and families for YWCA Durham. Go Lords!

The men's volleyball team has been unstoppable this season as they sport a perfect 16-0 conference record and are the lone undefeated team in the OCAA. The Lords' strong performance has made them a mainstay in the Canadian Collegiate Athletic Association (CCAA) national rankings, as they sit fourth and are in the polls for the fifth straight week.

After a strong start to 2015, the men's basketball program finds itself back in the national polls as they are 12th overall. Currently standing 12-3, they look to be top contenders for the OCAA Men's Basketball Championship from Friday, March 6 to Sunday, March 8, on home courts at the CRWC. While the women's team is 8 and 6 with only two games remaining until the OCAA Women's Basketball Championship from Thursday, March 5 to Saturday, March 7.



Do you remember when the gym looked like this (top)? Check out our beautiful new seating (bottom), which is sure to keep you comfortable the next time you come to cheer on the Durham Lords!

Upcoming events

FEBRUARY AND MARCH, 2015



24/02/15

Education and Careers in Insurance

*Oshawa campus, Gordon Willey building,
Dining Room, Room G213, 4:30 p.m.*

Individuals seeking industry-driven training and education to meet future career goals in insurance are invited to an insightful, [free information session](#) to learn about the [Insurance – two-year diploma program](#) offered by Durham College, and hear what industry experts have to say about this dynamic sector, which employs nearly 77,000 Ontarians by insurance carriers or related services. Guests will hear from industry experts from the Insurance Institute of Canada, followed by a panel discussion with insurance professionals.

06/03/2015

OCAA men's basketball championship

Campus Recreation and Wellness Centre

The Lords look forward to hosting the provincial championship in their own backyard. The championship will involve eight teams with their eye on the title as the event runs from Friday, March 6 to Sunday, March 8. The Alumni Association will sponsor the OCAA Men's Alumni Basketball Social event on opening night of the championship weekend.



21/03/2015

Spring Open House

Oshawa and Whitby campuses, Pickering Learning Site, 10 a.m.

Invite your friends and family to come see why they should join you as a Durham College alum, or re-enrol to expand your skill set with one of the 140-plus choices available. There will be lots to see and do between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. from learning about the latest facilities and services to entering to win tuition or an iPad. Visit www.durhamcollege.ca/openhouse for more details.

Alumni benefit of the month

XPRESSIONTHESALON

Keeping you polished

Whether you're in need of a new professional look to make an impression at work or have a special event that calls for expert styling, [Xpression Salon](#) in Brooklin can help. Call 905.655.8046 to book your appointment and receive 20 per cent off all services. Valid at 31 Baldwin St. S. only.





SPRING OPEN HOUSE



WIN
TUITION



SATURDAY, MARCH 21 | 10 A.M. TO 2 P.M.

Prospective students, friends, family, alumni and community members are invited.

- Meet students and faculty and attend information sessions
- Take a campus tour and explore state-of-the-art facilities at our Oshawa, Whitby and Pickering locations

www.durhamcollege.ca/openhouse
905.721.3000 | [#dcopenhous](https://twitter.com/dcopenhous)



New and notable

DC HIGHLIGHTS

DC wins six Education Digital Marketing Awards

Durham College (DC) is pleased to congratulate its Communications and Marketing department on winning six Education Digital Marketing Awards (EDMA), presented by the Higher Education Marketing Report, the most widely read publication for educational marketers. Several staff members working in the department are proud DC alumni.

Competing in the two-year institution group with a student enrolment of 7,500 to 15,000, DC won three Gold Awards, one Silver Award, one Bronze Award and one Merit Award. Winners were selected by a national panel of industry specialists who reviewed each piece to judge creativity, marketing execution, message impact, technology application and innovation content.

“With the EDMAs recognizing some of the best educational websites, digital content, electronic communications, mobile media and social media, I am so happy for Durham College and the amazing team that worked to execute these projects,” said Carol Beam, executive director, Communications and Marketing, DC. “Their creativity, dedication and genuine enthusiasm are truly evident in the quality of work they produce. Every marketing piece is created with the student experience in mind.”

To find out which projects were recognized, please [click here](#).

COLLEGE NEWS

Campus holiday food drive achieves record-breaking results

Durham College (DC) and the University of Ontario Institute of Technology's (UOIT) campus Holiday Food Drive committee has reported a record year in fundraising.

Staff, faculty, students and volunteers from DC and UOIT, and the DC Alumni Association, in partnership with the Student Association and the Kinsmen Club of Oshawa, demonstrated a tremendous outpouring of help and generosity to support the annual tradition. Financial donations and non-perishable food items were collected during November and December and several fundraising events and initiatives were held on campus.

Korina Keays, who will graduate from DC's [Office Administration – Medical program](#) this spring, told the Oshawa Express newspaper she learned about the campus Holiday Food Drive from a friend and was overjoyed with the support. [Read more](#) about Keays' story.

“The Holiday Food Drive truly brings our entire community together to support our own,” said Kevin Dougherty, co-chair of the campus Holiday Food Drive.

Dougherty and Pat Vale-Dougherty have volunteered with the campus Holiday Food Drive for 15 years, and began co-chairing it in 2006. Dougherty graduated from the Business Administration, Information Systems program in 1998 and is currently a professor with DC's School of Business, IT & Management, while Vale-Dougherty graduated from Graphic Design in 1976 and is currently executive assistant to the dean of UOIT's Faculty of Education.

New and notable

COLLEGE NEWS

DC hosts Minister of Health Rona Ambrose

With healthy living becoming an increasing priority among students and the local community, Durham College (DC) President Don Lovisa was pleased to host Rona Ambrose, Federal Minister of Health, as she visited the college's Whitby campus on December 16.

The minister and some caucus colleagues joined Lovisa, Dr. Judeline Innocent, dean of the [School of Health & Community Services \(HCS\)](#), and Susan Sproul, recently retired dean for the School of HCS, for a discussion centring on the college's range of clinical-focused health programs – from its newest program, [Activation Coordination in Gerontology](#), to cornerstones including [Dental Hygiene](#) and [Occupational Therapist Assistant/Physiotherapist Assistant \(OTA/PTA\)](#) among others – over lunch at [Bistro '67](#) and the [Centre for Food \(CFF\)](#).

“In addition to learning more about our emphasis on practical learning opportunities across all our health programs, the health minister showed great interest in how we train our culinary students to prepare healthy meals and meet the demands of an ever-growing health-conscious food-service market,” said Lovisa. “It is always wonderful to be able to showcase the state-of-the-art facilities that Durham College has to offer, and Minister Ambrose was keenly interested in how our facilities provide students with hands-on experience as they work towards meaningful careers.”

Full details on each of DC's health-focused programs are available [here](#).



Rona Ambrose, Federal Health Minister, visited Durham College to learn about its emphasis on practical learning opportunities across all our health programs, and showed great interest in how culinary students are trained in healthy meal preparation.



Success Matters

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