The Ted Freedman Award for Innovation in Education 2020

About the Ted Freedman Award
In 2000, Ted Freedman was the surprised honoree of an annual award launched by Healthcare Quarterly in cooperation with Agilent Technologies.

Mr. Freedman was not only the president and chief executive officer of Mount Sinai Hospital but also an associate professor in the Faculty of Medicine and the Department of Health Administration at the University of Toronto. He is a former chair of the Accrediting Commission on Education for Health Services Administration, Bridgepoint Active Healthcare, the Change Foundation and the Ontario Health Research Alliance and vice chair of Mount Sinai Hospital and Saint Elizabeth Health Care, all organizations committed to research and education.

The award recognizes individuals who inspire, advocate and enable education in healthcare.

2020 Award Recipients
Longwoods and our judges extend their congratulations to Ontario Health (Quality)'s Pierrette Price Arsenault, Tricia Beath, Tasleen Adatia, Lisa Bitonti-Bengert and Dr. Timothy Jackson – the 2020 recipients of the Ted Freedman Award – in recognition of their program “The Ontario Surgical Quality Improvement Network Community of Practice – Improving Surgical Care in Ontario.” This is a continuing professional development initiative that addresses clinical and practice challenges that Ontario’s family physicians have identified as being overwhelming to them.

The program’s goal is to improve surgical care in Ontario by accelerating quality improvement (QI) through a community of practice. Initiated by surgical leaders and driven by its members, the Ontario Surgical Quality Improvement Network (ON-SQIN) is a QI program consisting of 46 surgical teams that form a community of practice dedicated to improving surgical outcomes across Ontario.

The surgical network uses high-quality clinical data collected through the National Surgical Quality Improvement Program (NSQIP) to spur surgical QI practices among participating hospitals. Outcomes measured include rates of unplanned intubation, postsurgical infection, hospital readmissions and post-surgery sepsis. These data help ON-SQIN hospitals identify areas for improvement.

In May 2017, NSQIP data showed that Ontario’s postsurgical infection rates were above the international average rates. The ON-SQIN community had matured to the point where they were able to work toward implementing change provincially and launched a year-long campaign to reduce postsurgical infections by at least 20%. Members implemented a bundle of evidence-based changes to improve their chosen area of focus (surgical site infection [SSI], urinary tract infection [UTI] or pneumonia). After one year, the teams self-reported a 27% combined reduction in the rates of UTI, SSI and pneumonia.

Congratulations!

To learn more about this program, please visit: https://www.hqontario.ca/Quality-Improvement/Quality-Improvement-in-Action/Ontario-Surgical-Quality-Improvement-Network.
Here are some other programs that we would like to mention.

Emerging Leader Forum: A Community to Inspire and Support the Next Generation of Healthcare Leaders

The healthcare ecosystem is segmented between many different verticals of work, including — but not limited to — virtual care, patient access, data management, clinical diagnostics, knowledge translation, social determinants and supply chain. Many of these segments are siloed, without much dialogue and knowledge sharing between professionals.

The Emerging Leader Forum (ELF) is a not-for-profit program that builds a community of healthcare professionals who come together to learn from each other and from experts in the healthcare industry. ELF meets the evolving needs of emerging professionals, has a network of 900-plus healthcare leaders who are in the first 10 years of their careers and has formed partnerships with consulting firms, innovation hubs and hospital networks. ELF brings together professionals from diverse backgrounds, including those with roles in consulting and clinical research, to challenge the “status quo” collaboration and create new norms for the health system.

Through thoughtfully curated events, networking and a formal mentorship program, ELF refines skills and cultivates ideas among the members on how to best transform and improve the healthcare system. Our program is based in Toronto, providing early- to mid-level healthcare professionals around the Greater Toronto Area with a venue for discussion, debate and education to help develop the next generation of healthcare leaders.

To learn more about this program, please visit: https://emergingleaderforum.org/ or e-mail emergingleaderforum@gmail.com.

A Strategy for Health and Wellness in Ontario Communities: Innovation, Flexibility and Accessibility for All

McMaster University Continuing Education offers diverse and timely online credit and non-credit programs to professionals working in the health and social service sectors. Among others, these programs support flexible and evidence-based learning in response to an aging demographic, the realities of addiction and mental health in modern society and applied clinical research as a means of ensuring clinical excellence.

The Caregiving Essentials program is a no-cost open-access program for informal caregivers of older adults. Caregiving Essentials provides a superior educational experience to Ontario caregivers, one that they can access online. To date, the program has served more than 680 caregivers.

Professional Addiction Studies serves health and social service professionals and examines addiction and mental health realities at the national level. We are proud to have offered programming in this area for over 30 years.

The Science of Cannabis program is a direct response to the legalization of cannabis in Canada and the need for evidence-based information about how cannabis affects our health. This three-course program investigates cannabis from the following perspectives: its scientific foundations, therapeutic interventions and risks and harms.

In these days, quieting the mind is more important than ever. Mindfulness for Modern Society teaches us to find the required calm for our health and well-being.

Our Applied Clinical Research program prepares health professionals in the clinical research field to use the highest quality of research to inform our healthcare decisions and practices to ensure health excellence.

To learn more about these programs, please visit: www.mcmastercce.ca.

SE Health Indigenous Program Promoting Culturally Safe Training and Care

SE Health is answering an important call for help with its one-of-a-kind Indigenous Blended Delivery Personal Support Worker/Health Care Aid (PSW/HCA) program.

First Nation (FN) communities across Canada are seeking education that is relevant, accessible and culturally safe to meet significant health and human resource shortages for PSWs/HCAs and reclaim care for their respective communities.

In the 2015 Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada report, there was a call to action for all levels of government to increase the number of Indigenous health professionals working in the healthcare field. In 2018, the Standing Committee on Indigenous and Northern Affairs was flagged as critical because of the shortage of PSWs in FN communities.

SE Health’s program addresses the direct need for highly trained and certified PSWs in Indigenous communities. The program is designed to meet training needs in a culturally safe manner, offering a learning environment that is accepting and supportive of Indigenous culture. It is also designed to reduce students’ time away from family and community, allowing them to continue providing care during their studies, minimizing impact on client care and ensuring student success and high completion rates.

As a not-for-profit social enterprise delivering exceptional care at home for over a century, SE Health knows the importance of community and working together to celebrate its diversity while nurturing the needs of its people and ensuring that care comes first. The program is positively impacting care for over 80,000 FN community members.

To learn more about this program, please visit: https://fnim.sehc.com/se-learning/vocational-training.